

COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XXXIV.—No. 877.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 1913.

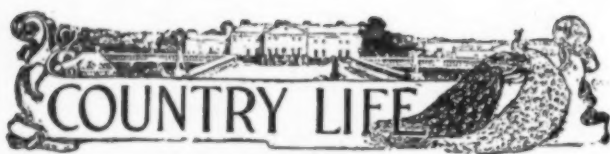
PRICE SIXPENCE, BY POST, 6½d.
[REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.]



RITA MARTIN.

THE COUNTESS OF KERRY.

74, Baker Street, W.



THE Journal for all interested in

Country Life and Country Pursuits

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Our Portrait Illustration: The Countess of Kerry	549, 550
The Cheap Cottage. (Leader)	550
Country Notes	551
A Parable, by Edgar Newgass	551
Her Hands, by Celia Congreve	552
Economy and Taste in Cottage Building	553
The Search for Cheapness, by Lawrence Weaver (Illustrated)	557
Tales of Country Life: The Fairy Clogs	559
Duck-shooting in Norfolk, by Nicholas Everitt. (Illustrated)	560
The Recent Farm Labourers' Strike.—I. The District and the Men	562
The Record Okapi, by H. A. Bryden. (Illustrated)	563
Annals of the Gosh: The Royal Americans	564
In the Garden: The Japanese Windflowers. (Illustrated)	565
Châteaux of France: Chaumont-sur-Loire, by W. H. Ward. (Illustrated)	566
English Late Renaissance Woodwork.—III. Grinding Gibbons' Contemporaries and Successors, by H. Avray Tipping. (Illustrated)	572
Agricultural Notes	576
Literature	577
Works of Tennyson (Macmillan); The Polo Calendar of the Indian Polo Association, 1912-1913; The Book of the Ball (A. E. Crawley).	
The End of the Cubbing Season: A Word Upon Methods. (Illustrated by G. D. Armour.)	578
Correspondence	581
On the Seal Rock in St. Bride's Bay; A Late Brood of Wild Duck (B. Le Née Foster); Apples (G. Welburn); The Wood-pigeon; Wireworm and Bracken; Pike Fishing to Order (G. F. I. Schwerdt); Squirrels (Sigismund Goetze); "White-maned Serow" (H. Frank Wallace); Quails in England (Sir T. A. Bramsdon); The Eagle-ray and its Young (G. A. Boulenger); "A Mixed Bag" (M. F. Hamilton); Forest Trees for Landscape-planting (Laurence B. Faraday); The Merry-thought (Mary C. Fair); An Extraordinary Silver Spruce (D. Grant); A Substitute for Trapping Moles (Mary Gray); Ancient Oaks (M. E. Hodges); A Tame Otter (E. M. Pryce-Jenkins).	
Racing Notes. (Illustrated)	3*
A Post-Journalist	4*
Lesser Country Houses of To-day: The Wharf, Sutton Courtney. (Illustrated)	2*
Kennel Notes, by A. Croxton Smith. (Illustrated)	12*
On the Green: Golf in France, etc., by Horace Hutchinson and Gerard Darwin. (Illustrated)	19*
The Automobile World: The Paris Show; etc. (Illustrated)	22*
Shooting Notes	33*
Modes and Moods. (Illustrated)	37*
Some Recent Novels	40*
O'er Field and Furrow	44*
For Town and Country	48*
A New Organic Fertiliser	50*

EDITORIAL NOTICE.

The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS., photographs or sketches submitted to him, but they should be accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes for return if unsuitable. In case of loss or injury he cannot hold himself responsible for MSS., photographs or sketches, and publication in COUNTRY LIFE can alone be taken as evidence of acceptance. The name and address of the owner should be placed on the back of all pictures and MSS.

THE CHEAP COTTAGE.

IT is with considerable reluctance that we print an adverse opinion on the latest thing in cheap cottages—the one put up for Mr. St. Loe Strachey by Mr. Arnold Mitchell—for Mr. Strachey has worked with great energy and disinterested zeal. But in our opinion the energy is misdirected and the zeal mistaken when they are directed to securing a cottage which is little more than a box shelter. People could live in it, no doubt, even as a rabbit can live in a very small hutch. Unfortunately for these creatures, owners very often crowd them into very small hutches; but those who wish to produce and keep their rabbits in condition, not to say win prizes with them, enlarge the dwelling and give a run in the fresh air. This again is the enlightened treatment now adopted at all the well-kept zoological gardens. As long as the beasts were packed into dens and cages the death-rate among them was high and they could not be kept in condition. To confine the human animal in what, after all, is little if any

better than a rabbit-hutch would be to turn back the clock. And how long would the tenant consent to remain in it? It is of such stuff that slums are made. Your real old substantial dwelling is not easily turned into a slum. After standing for two hundred years or so its well built walls and stout beams refuse to succumb to ill-usage. Age does not make the slum, but bad building and bad occupancy. Twenty years ago Mr. John Burns described a certain class of cottage as being a "brick box with a slate lid," and this is the sort of house-property that may appear to look well enough just after it is built, but is turned into a slum within the space of three years or less. What else could be expected to happen? The rooms are small, the draughts many, comfort there is none in such a cottage. In consequence, less care is taken of it.

Before going further, however, it may be well to form a clear idea of what is meant by cheapness in this connection. It may be illustrated by the case of a man buying some common articles of apparel, such as a shirt. He goes to a shop where cheapness is everything, and is astonished at the trifling charge made. Not till after wearing it does he discover that the cheapness was obtained by using the worst material and workmanship. On the other hand, he may be rich and go to the other extreme. In that case he buys a fine and beautifully made garment, soft to the touch and luxurious to wear. Very likely it does not last longer than the shoddy one; but in the case that is not a consideration. The buyer is able to afford luxury. Economy is the half-way house between these extremes. An economical purchase is the best that can be obtained, bringing into account the two factors, comfort and wear. Good stuff is always the cheapest in the end, so long as nothing is given for luxury or unnecessary ornament. It will, we think, be admitted that these homely considerations are generally understood in regard to the ordinary necessities of life. They apply equally well to a cottage. In order to secure cheapness (of an extravagant kind) inferior material have to be employed, which means that everything is more easily damaged by the robust cottage children. Cheap doors, cheap windows, cheap grates spell discomfort and often disease. Moreover, such things are constantly falling out of repair, and mending is only a milestone on the way to ruin. In order to secure his end the architect had had to reduce space to a minimum. In other words, the rooms are small and very crowded. A result is that the children are often forced out on the street and the father to the public-house. That is why we think that the erection either of the rabbit-hutch type of cottage or the cement type is against morals and progress.

Extravagance would be an equal crime. The economical cottage must be that in which the space allowed errs, where at all, on the side of generosity. Materials should be sound and good and, without aiming at super-excellence, the workmanship should be of the best. At any rate, it grows every day more apparent that cultivated opinion in Great Britain will not stand the erection all over the country of ugly box-like or cement houses. Our columns show that there has been a most spirited rebellion against the very idea of it, and we are glad to believe that the Government Departments most intimately associated with the building of cottages are in sympathy with the views that have been set forward here. It only remains to educate all concerned out of the idea that cheapness in itself is a sufficing doctrine, or that because there is a scarcity of cottages at the present moment it would be justifiable to build any sort of makeshift buildings that would do no more than serve as a covering for those who would otherwise be shelterless. After all, this country is not Ireland, and despite all that has been said, agriculture is not an industry that is or ought to be sweated. We can, if we like, afford to build for the rural labourers houses that will be comfortable to them and no discredit to the countryside in which they are built. But in order to accomplish this it is necessary that those who have the matter at heart should "neither slumber nor sleep." There never was a more difficult task than that of reviving in the English people that love of good houses which distinguished them in the spacious days of Queen Elizabeth.

Our Portrait Illustration.

OUR portrait illustration is of the Countess of Kerry. Lady Kerry is the daughter of Sir Edward Stanley Hope, K.C.B., and was married to Lord Kerry, the eldest son of the Marquess of Lansdowne, in 1904.

* * It is particularly requested that no permissions to photograph houses, gardens or livestock on behalf of COUNTRY LIFE be granted except when a direct application is made from the offices of the paper. When such requests are received, the Editor would esteem the kindness of readers if they would forward the correspondence at once to him.



COUNTRY NOTES

SO great is the importance of the rural housing question that we need make no apology for publishing a liberal proportion of the vast number of letters we have received. It will be noticed that these communications have been received from every part of the United Kingdom and from all sorts and conditions of men. They speak with one accent and with one voice. The Speaker of the House of Commons, Members of the Upper House and of the Lower, Tory Members and Labour Members, head magistrates of many cities, such as the Lord Provost of Glasgow and Mr. Rowntree, the Mayor of Harrogate, are unanimously of opinion that there is a real danger of cottages of the Irish or Emmanuel College type being dumped down on the country unless strenuous measures are adopted for the purpose of preventing such a calamity. Several men of high position and influence have written suggesting means whereby a combination may be made sufficiently strong to ensure that a better type of cottage should be erected. We take this opportunity of assuring our correspondents that their suggestions are receiving the most careful consideration, and that we hope to evolve an effective plan.

Lord William Gascoyne-Cecil's disquisition in the *Times* on scattered cottages is not very convincing. The expression, "isolated cottage," as applied to the house of an agricultural labourer, is not very accurate. After all, farms do not run very large in Great Britain, and the cottages scattered over one of average size cannot be any great distance from one another. Moreover, economy demands that they should be built in pairs, or even in blocks of four, so that there is very little in this part of Lord William's argument. The inconvenience of children living at a distance from school is very much exaggerated by people who count the miles without knowing the scholars. From a very intimate acquaintance with such children, we have no hesitation in saying that they are the flower of the country-side. In their freshness and colour, their activity, their brightness, they far excel the village children, and we have often noticed that those brought up in comparative isolation have a fineness and bloom that get rubbed off when the cottages are crowded together. Further, many of the picturesque villages to which Lord William Gascoyne-Cecil alludes are situated three and even four miles from the scene of the man's labour. This detracts very considerably from his value. Farmers will not freely engage a man living at a distance if they can get one near at hand, because, in the first place, he is more or less tired before getting on the ground, and the walk home at night is an additional burden; should he have a bicycle, the case is better. A labourer on a farm should be handy for any accidental need connected with the livestock. If the farms were more liberally supplied with cottages, the overcrowding in the villages would be automatically relieved.

When the Dairy Show opened on Tuesday, all the omens were propitious except the weather. It must have been a very great disappointment to the thousands who make this show an excuse for an autumn visit to town to find London lying under a dense cloud which was for ever discharging its contents on the streets, and, like the widow's cruse, was never exhausted. The entries to the show, however, were highly satisfactory, both in regard to number and quality. Indeed, they exceeded those of any previous year. The principal

increase was in the poultry section, and it undoubtedly reflects the growing interest in the breeding of fowls either for profit or fancy. The cattle classes, especially those for pure breeds, were filled in the most satisfactory manner. They included one hundred and twenty-five shorthorns, including the non-registered; and seventy-six Channel Island cows, composed of Jerseys and Guernseys. There were not many Ayrshires, South Devons or Keries. It was very satisfactory to find the cattle classes so well filled, in face of the shortage in numbers shown in the Agricultural Returns.

Trafalgar Square on Tuesday was an inspiring sight, and we doubt if it lost anything of its impressiveness owing to the dulness of the weather. The clouds and thin rain formed no inappropriate setting to the picture. On the summit of its tall plinth the statue of the one-armed hero of Trafalgar could easily be imagined as taking cognisance of all that was passing at his feet. Green wreaths and garlands of white and yellow flowers testified to an admiration that can never die for "the unforgotten brave." No huge crowd gathered, it is true, but the Square never was empty. There was always a group looking up at the "mighty seaman," and from scraps of conversation one could gather that their conversation was of the great deeds performed by him more than a hundred years ago.

A select little gathering of bookworms assembled in Hanover Square the other night to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of the Bibliographical Society. Sir William Osler presided, and a paper was read by Mr. A. W. Pollard. Among those present were many whose names are closely linked with bookish associations. There was Mr. Madan, Bodley's Librarian, Mr. W. A. K. Miller, Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum; Mr. Gilson, Keeper of Manuscripts at the same place; Mr. Palmer of the Art Library, Victoria and Albert Museum; Mr. Greg, late Librarian of Trinity College, Cambridge; and many others like Mr. H. B. Wheatley and Mr. Lionel Cust, who are of bookmen most bookish. Mr. Pollard had a pleasant history to recite of the twenty-one years during which the society has existed. The very names of those most intimately associated with its development must be music in the ear of the bibliophile.

Every year the report of the Postmaster-General sheds a light of its own on national activities, and this year's report is even more fascinating than usual. It has been a year of brisk trade, and this sheds its influence over all the different departments of the Post Office—letters, parcels, postal orders, savings bank and telephone. With this there is proof that either the senders are becoming more educated and careful, or the staff of the Post Office more efficient, as there is a very decided falling off in the number of packages that it has not been possible to deliver. The prosperity of the working classes probably accounts for the increase of more than five and a half million pounds, as compared with last year, of the amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank. In the United Kingdom there were close on nine million different accounts and the average amount to the credit of each was £20 9s. 9d. Not with very great grief do we learn that the post card, except in London, is being discarded. It was a means of communication which in our opinion never had much to recommend it. On the whole, the report of the Post Office must be pronounced to be a great and satisfactory one. The country is never going far wrong when its postal business is very active.

A PARABLE.

Under the trees, where a carpet cool,
The green moss, harbours a hundred homes,
There sat him down on a day, a fool,
Who wondered "what of the wind that roams
The broad earth over?"

The secret, too,
The birds sang out of an empty sky,
That even the tiniest spider knew,
And shared with squirrel and dragon-fly!

A—h! steal away, heart still with awe,
And great with praises, a fool no more.

EDGAR NEWGASS.

As in former times it was said of Africa that it would always produce some new thing, so now it may be said of New Guinea, which is at last beginning to give up some of its long-kept secrets. The latest accounts are brought by Mr. W. N. Beaver a magistrate in British New Guinea, or Papua, as it is officially called, who has returned to this country after exploring some

of the little-known country in the south-west division. During nine months of the year the country is almost entirely submerged, and the villages are built on hillocks so as to be clear of the floods. "Village" is perhaps hardly the right term, as each community inhabits one common house built in three storeys. The people are said to be head-hunters, but not cannibals; indeed, it may be remarked that cannibalism is a much less common practice than is often supposed. Witchcraft and sorcery are common among many of the tribes, the chief being in some instances the head sorcerer. He claims to be able to dissociate his spirit from his body and to send it on various (generally maleficent) missions.

But to many people the chief interest of New Guinea lies in the fact that it is the home of some of the most beautiful birds and butterflies in the world. Nearly all of the birds of Paradise are found there, and in some districts a large and very profitable trade is carried on in their plumes, so that in the more accessible regions these wonderful creatures are approaching extinction. Almost equally beautiful are the rare and shy bower-birds, while cockatoos and parrots and lorries are found almost everywhere in countless numbers. The mammals are comparatively few, and they belong, like those of the neighbouring continent of Australia, mostly to the order of marsupials; there are, however, wild pigs, whose ancestors were probably introduced from elsewhere in the remote past. Insects, both noxious and otherwise, abound, and the vision of a golden ornithoptera (bird-winged butterfly) swooping across a sun-lit glade is one of the most beautiful that a traveller may see. New Guinea is *par excellence* the land of reptiles, and it is interesting to see that some of the tribes visited by Mr. Beaver pay great respect to snakes and refrain from killing them.

One of the most fascinating subjects in rural administration is that of the drainage of the land. Drainage, in those counties where it is important, was originally in the hands of Commissioners, and then the Courts of Sewers were constituted by an Act of Parliament in 1428. Originally there was one court for the whole country; later, district courts sprang up. These bodies were composed of the great landowners of the district and others possessing special qualifications on the same lines as the Commissions of the Peace, and they gradually attained to considerable power, as they were judicial bodies and could enforce their decrees. In modern days many of these courts have become moribund, and the real administrative authorities are the District Drainage Boards and the Navigation Commissioners of the various rivers. It is obvious that the interests of the Drainage Boards are in direct opposition to those of the Navigation Commissions, as the Drainage Boards wish to keep the water-level in the rivers, which are their main drains, as low as possible, especially as a precautionary measure in wet weather, whereas the Navigation Commissioners have to maintain a stated minimum depth.

The conflicting interests of Drainage and Navigation are not the only complications, for the drainage areas are also the rating areas and are purely arbitrary, in the same way that parishes and even counties are arbitrary, and have been divided up without any regard to the extent of drainage work required or to the rateable value of the land which must bear the cost of it. Thus it happens that the Drainage Boards of certain portions of the Fens have become bankrupt, as the land is rated to its maximum capacity and they are unable to raise any more money to carry out improvements which are not only vital to their own districts but also to neighbouring parts, which, however, cannot be taxed to contribute their share, because they do not come under the jurisdiction of the Boards. It will be plain from the foregoing that the only sensible procedure would be to divide the country up into watershed areas for drainage purposes, and to put the administration of each area into the hands of a single Commission, who would be supreme both in questions of drainage and navigation. Under such a system of administration the incidence of the drainage rates might be more justly proportioned to the benefits received.

Though it is obvious that high land that drains naturally should not be taxed to pay for the drainage of low-lying fens which can only be maintained at considerable cost, yet within the Eastern Counties the amount of land that does not directly benefit by artificial drainage works is remarkably small, as it is only by constant care at the outfalls that even the upper basins of such rivers as the Witham, Bedford Ouse, Welland and Nene can be kept free from floods; while it is the superfluous water collected on and drained from the high lands which makes the problem of low-land drainage so difficult. For example, it is the water from above Lincoln that causes floods over the lower Witham

fens, and this same land has gained its comparative freedom from floods by the outfall works constructed thirty years ago at a cost of nearly two hundred thousand pounds, but pays nothing for this benefit; while the city itself is saved from the disastrous floods which were common in the past, and much land that was formerly valueless has been built on and pays rates in consequence; but the contribution made by Lincoln towards the outfall sinking fund only amounts to thirty-eight pounds per annum. What has saved the situation in the past is the Gilbertian fact that the same men are often on two or three Drainage Boards, Navigation Commissions, Corporations and County Councils; therefore, as their interests when serving on one body are diametrically opposed to their needs when serving on another, the advantage one body may have over another is not pressed very far, but it must be remembered also that much work which is very necessary is postponed indefinitely because of the conflicting interests of the various members of the Boards.

The exceptionally mild weather experienced during the past few weeks has had a marked effect on vegetation, and many plants that we associate with the spring and summer have been flowering freely. This was particularly noticeable at the Royal Horticultural Society's meeting on Tuesday last, when even the casual visitor could detect many kinds that rightly belong to the earlier days of the year. Rock garden plants of diverse types were in flower, two kinds of gentian, viz., *Gentiana acaulis* and *G. verna*, being exceedingly good in one or two groups. Roses were there in abundance, and the blooms were of almost as good quality and quite as fragrant as many that come to us in July. It is to the hybrid tea varieties that we mainly owe this late display of our national flower.

HER HANDS.

(To Sister L., Men's Surgical Ward. July, 1913.)

I like to watch her beautiful hands,
Slender, flexible, strong as steel,—
In the rubber gloves that fit like skin,—
At pitiful tasks that hurt to heal.

They move like Fate, those beautiful hands,
Firm, relentless,—tender and kind.
Cleansing wounds at which others shrink,
Theirs is the strength that has love behind.

Merciless, merciful, beautiful hands,—
Whether they bring relief or pain
Those who have felt their healing touch
Will long, in need, for those hands again.

CELIA CONGREVE.

Among the directions in which inventive genius might be profitably employed at the moment there is none more promising than that which points to the invention of a new means of manuring the soil. Cultivators of every kind have during the present autumn experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining the usual supplies of manure from town. These used to come from stables belonging to houses of business that kept large quantities of horses, particularly from the omnibus and tramway companies; but to so great an extent has mechanical been substituted for horse traction that manure is very difficult to get. Whereas those who had it in town were very glad to get it carried away a few years ago, they now have so many customers that the latter wait their turn. This is inconvenient to husbandmen; but it is an opportunity to those who are studying means of rejuvenating the soil through bacteria or other sources not depending on stable or animal refuse.

Those few—those gallant few—that band of brothers who rode in the famous Charge of Balaclava, have dwindled to a small number now, and one more has passed away in the person of Sir George Wombwell. He died at his residence, Newburgh Priory, Yorkshire, at the age of eighty. At the time of the Crimean War he was a cornet in the 17th Lancers and aide-de-camp to Lord Cardigan. In the famous Charge of the Light Brigade he was taken prisoner by the Russians after two horses had been shot under him. In telling the story, he used to say that he walked with his captors as he was bound to do, but "seeing the Eleventh Hussars coming back at a gallop, when they got near I made a rush forward and luckily caught a horse, on which I jumped and rode back with them." Sir George was a very keen sportsman, and for many years was Master of the York and Ainsty Hounds.

ECONOMY AND TASTE IN COTTAGE BUILDING.

SOME LEADING OPINIONS.

WE continue to receive such a number of highly important letters about the designing of rural cottages that it becomes more evident than ever how strongly the educated feeling in this country is in favour of building cottages that are not mere sheds and boxes in which human cattle may be housed, but dwellings that may become little homes in the purest and most beautiful sense of that phrase. Space does not permit of the printing of all the letters, but we give a selection

By the Speaker of the House of Commons.

SIR,—I have read the article which you enclosed and the letter headed "An Atrocious Vandalism." I fully agree with the tenor of both. I know nothing more depressing than the rows of dull, uninteresting cottages which may be seen in many mining villages, and should be sorry to see them copied in our rural villages; but the difficulty is that the moment any architectural embellishment or attractive colour is attempted in cottage construction, a considerable addition is made to the cost of erection, and as cottages cannot be expected to pay more than one or two per cent., it is too much to expect that unremunerative capital should be sunk to gratify æsthetic feeling, except by landowners who take a delight in beautifying their possessions. As to the Upminster Common houses depicted in your issue of the 4th inst., I consider them an outrage, and could not have believed that Emmanuel College would have been guilty of such an abomination.—JAMES W. LOWTHER.

By Lord Newton.

I consider that you have rendered a valuable public service in drawing attention to the action of Emmanuel College.—NEWTON.

By the Earl of Selborne.

Allow me to express my complete agreement with you that there is no reason whatever why a cheap and good cottage should not also have the beauty which arises from good proportions and a careful study of the fitness of a cottage to its surroundings. The design of cottage perfected by Mr. Arnold Mitchell seems to me to meet the necessities of the case exactly, and there are others. There is certainly no necessity whatever to build cement boxes.—SELBORNE.

[We wonder if Lord Selborne has actually seen the cottage by Mr. Arnold Mitchell. Mr. Lawrence Weaver gives a very unfavourable account of it. See below.—ED.]

By the Earl of Mar.

I am quite in accord with your views regarding the design of country cottages. "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever," and I consider that this ideal should be approached, as far as possible, without undue extravagance, in the construction and surroundings of dwellings for the working classes, and I believe it would tend to their well-being and happiness.—MAR.

By the Earl of Lytton.

I am entirely in sympathy with your views contained in this letter as well as in the leading article in COUNTRY LIFE of October 11th. I think there is great danger that in the pursuit of cheapness in the matter of cottage building, considerations of design may be completely overlooked. If only the appearance of the cottage can be recognised as an essential feature of its construction, I agree with you in thinking that the additional expense involved in the provision of a good design will be comparatively small. The case of the cottages built by Emmanuel College is certainly a scandal. You will be doing a real public service if you will use the influence of your paper in impressing upon the public the necessity of considering beauty of design in the planning of cottages. I entirely approve of the objects for which your paper has consistently striven ever since it first started, and you will find me at all times ready to give you what support I can in your efforts to preserve the beauty of the countryside.—LYTTON.

By the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery.

Re the building of "these hideous modern cottages." I am thoroughly in agreement with everything you say. I am afraid, though, that worse is yet to come, as the average architect employed by public bodies seems to have absolutely no idea of beauty. I agree that nothing more ghastly could exist than the blue-slatted or iron-roofed monstrosities that are now being put up, and for my part I am going very carefully into every detail of cottages to be built on my own property; but the modern craze for things "cheap and nasty" is hard to combat.—PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY.

By Lord Hylton.

You may remember a speech made by Lord Rosebery some time since in which he advised all foreigners who would wish to visit the "beauty spots" of England, with their wealth of ancient and picturesque dwelling-houses, great and small, to do so now, for, as he well pointed out, a few years hence it will be too late—a revolution is progressing rapidly. The vandalism displayed by Emmanuel College's authorities, as proved by your illustrations, is but typical of what is going on everywhere. Only to-day, by a majority of votes—a small majority it is true—the Somerset County Council decided to build a great consumptive sanatorium or hospital on a lofty and lovely site in close proximity to the ancient City of Wells. It is not likely that such building or range of buildings will be otherwise than a hideous eyesore, and imagine this hard by Wells, of all places in the world! Of course, hospitals and sanatoria must be built, but they need not be placed in such positions as to disfigure the whole adjacent countryside. I am not surprised

to see what Emmanuel College has done at Upminster Common, for the college don's learning does not often extend beyond his own narrow province, and I fear is often tinged with much contempt for men and things outside the walls of his University.—HYLTON.

By Earl Stanhope.

Country districts inevitably are at a disadvantage with towns in certain respects—distance from amusements, no buses and trams to take men to and from their work, etc.—but compensate for these disadvantages in other ways, viz., by what the house agent describes as the "amenities" of the place—a pretty house, a pleasant garden, etc. Without such amenities men (even granted higher wages) will be drawn more and more to towns as a moth goes to the candle-flame. I am convinced, therefore, of the necessity of making cottages pleasant homes to live in. This entails good large windows, admitting plenty of light and (when they open them) plenty of air; a sufficiency of cupboards in which to store clothes and all the household requisites and without which a tidy cottage is an impossibility for most women. I find that not every cottager is prepared to cultivate a large garden, and that it is better to have a small garden (chiefly for flowers) round the house, and an allotment not far away for vegetables. Environment certainly has its effect, but I fear anything which breaks a roof-line, such as a gable, adds to the expense of building, and a bow window requires more upkeep (paint and glazing) than a simple frame. How far does the State agree with these views? One of the land valuers with whom I have had to deal refuses either to consider the cost of building a farm or cottage such as he has had to value, or even the cost of removing it to clear the site, and states that corrugated iron sheds will do for cowhouses, and weather-boards or slabs for cottages! A government, after all, has to be judged more by its actions than by the verbiage of ministers on public platforms. Unless this particular official has exceeded his instructions (which I doubt), the vandalism of Emmanuel College is as nothing compared to that apparently approved of by the present Government. A countryside dotted with buildings such as those suggested should, indeed, do much to bring people "back to the land"!—STANHOPE.

By Lord Leigh.

It is indeed deplorable that such acts of vandalism should be committed as is described by Mr. Halls in his letter of October 4th and such cottages erected when there are so many lovely cottages that could be taken as models, such as can be seen in "The Charm of the English Village," illustrated by Mr. Sydney Jones. Nor are there lacking modern designs of cottages, adapted to the needs of the present day, that are pleasing to the eye, as you mention in your leading article of October 11th. Again thanking you.—LEIGH.

By the Earl of Harrowby.

I am much obliged to you for the illustrations of the cottages recently erected for Emmanuel College. I am quite of opinion that the authority in question is deserving of censure for having built such monstrosities. One would have thought that such a body would have been glad to set a better example to other landlords, realising, as they should, the influence for good which a comfortable and attractive home has on English character. The extra cost per house for making it pleasing to the eye without embarking on anything elaborate would be comparatively small and in my opinion well worth it. The addition of a porch or a gable here and there very often means the difference between a cottage looking like a home instead of like a barrack. As to the general housing question in rural districts, you will be doing a public service by calling attention to the grave danger which is threatening the beauty of our English villages by the erection of a large number of houses which, though possibly convenient, yet have no pretensions to beauty or refinement. It is probable in the near future that cottages will have to be built on a large scale by landlords or public authorities, and I hope that your appeal to them will not be made to deaf ears.—HARROWBY.

By Lord Cranworth.

I was extremely glad to read your excellent article on the cottage problem. This problem is not going to be settled by the erection of buildings in which the sole consideration is one of cost. Such buildings may keep out the rain and supply the requisite minimum of air space for health. In the case of cattle and horses such considerations would be pre-eminent. In the case of human beings this is not sufficient. There is an earnest and rational desire to attract and retain a greater proportion of the populace in the country. It is certainly essential for this purpose that the homes provided should be of a stamp to give the occupants not merely adequate protection but pride and pleasure.—CRANWORTH.

By Lord Congleton.

Many thanks for your articles on rural housing and the cheap cottage problem. It is, I think, only a matter of giving a certain amount of consideration to an aspect of the problem that is generally overlooked, namely, the appearance of the completed house to the eye as opposed to its economic value on the rent roll. I believe in common with your correspondent's excellent article that real homes can be built for little more money than mere houses, but that many landlords do not apparently realise the difference between the two; and in this respect corporations (like municipalities, University Colleges, etc.) are by far the worst offenders; they demand cheapness, good materials, good drainage and a fixed number of rooms of a certain size—the resulting effect, produced by some town-bred builder, is never considered. It is, I am afraid, a very forlorn hope that in the future cottages shall not be considered habitable until passed by a committee of taste just as the sanitation authorities pass them. I only trust your appeal will be widely read by those who intend to erect cottages in the future, for I am sure it is an appeal against the worst tendency of this age.—CONGLETON.

By Lord Henry Bentinck.

I heartily agree with your views on cottage building. The labourer should be provided with something better than an ugly shell; he should have the opportunity of living in a place which is worthy of being called a home. A dignified, simple and harmonious design is, therefore, what we should aim at,

and that these good qualities can be secured without extra expense I am quite certain, if we take the trouble to set our minds to it.—HENRY BENTINCK.

By the Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man.

I fear my opinions on cottages are not of any great value, but I think that certain rules will pretty well ensure a cottage fitting into its surroundings. It should be (1) simple in construction; (2) be built of local materials; (3) not strive after mere prettiness. If those are followed I do not think the cottage builder can go far wrong.—RAGLAN.

By Lord Barrington.

I am much interested in the article in COUNTRY LIFE on rural housing. Both political parties now realise the urgent need of more cottages for the labouring classes, while the much-abused landlords, with but few exceptions, are willing to give the land required or to part with it as the Duke of Marlborough has done at agricultural prices. If the Housing Bills brought forward lately by the Opposition had not been opposed by Mr. John Burns and an Exchequer grant refused by Mr. Lloyd-George, hundreds of cottages would have been by now in course of erection. Bearing this in mind, it is absurd for the Government now to pose as the sole patentees of some infallible remedy for the present distress, and as being alone desirous of affording decent accommodation for the labouring classes. It is evident that something must be done, and that immediately, and on a considerable scale, one hundred thousand cottages now being considered a fairly moderate estimate of the number required. It is then all important, as you say, that public opinion should be aroused to insist not only on suitable buildings being erected, but such as will leave no permanent disfigurement on our English landscapes. Pressure must be brought to bear not only on private owners, who, for their own sakes, are naturally desirous not to mar the beauties of their property by the erection of unsightly buildings; not only on local authorities, who, faced by the nightmare of rising rates, find it difficult to believe that economy can be contrived with good work and good appearance, but also on the Board of Agriculture and Local Government Board if they undertake the work, to bring home to them that the country, though recognising the need of housing reform, will not tolerate the general disfigurement of rural England. The advice of several leading architects is preferable to blindly following the dicta of one infallible guide who is often chosen in these cases by the vaguest system of selection. Advisory committees of these leading architects should be possible and lead to the best work. District Councils should also be invited to formulate their views of what is desirable for local workers. While the advice of those who have not only lived for years on their estates but are personally acquainted with the tastes and everyday needs of the labourers on their property would also be of use. But if some official model or standardised cottage is suggested, care should be taken that this should not become a pitfall in another direction. The varying conditions and requirements of each district must be taken into account, and three considerations must be kept in view: (1) The stability and practical utility of the cottage erected; (2) the style of building best suited to its particular environment; and (3) the varying needs of each different locality. In some cases it will answer better to transform two cottages rented at 1s. a week into one paying 2s., while building the new cottages for those who can pay a slightly higher rent. In some cases the small single bedroom cottages unsuitable for larger families could be kept for the widows of those who have died in the service of the estate or for childless couples, and new ones built for the labourers. While in other localities the crying need is for cottages in close proximity to the farms where the labourer is employed, thus saving the time wasted and energy expended in the hour's walk to the daily work. It is difficult in these cases to condemn the tied houses, which, attached to the farms, are an enormous boon, where the village is at some distance, to employer and employed. Two standards of cottages will probably be necessary, the one for labourers and the other for the better-paid workers, who can afford 2s. 6d. or 3s. a week for rent and expect a little more in the way of accommodation. Three bedrooms are essential in both kinds of cottages for the separation of the sexes, and in each case the preference will be almost universal for the fair-sized kitchen-sitting-room in one and scullery, which entails (for those who can barely afford coals at all) the one fire in the winter, to the cramped kitchen and larger parlour scarcely ever used. For the better-class cottage, however, the small parlour as well is certainly needed. An immense amount of public money will be saved if intelligent consideration is given to these matters before work is commenced. If the due proportion of the two-sized cottages needed in each district is ascertained, and a wise latitude given to local authorities to adapt and build (with, of course, some supervision) to the best advantage. The stringency of local byelaws must also be relieved before anything can be done. It should not be a lengthy affair to gather the opinions of the advisory architects and the views of local authorities representing groups of villages in our English counties, while the knotty points of the advisability of bathrooms, which are invariably used as coal-bunkers or washtubs, and how to prevent the third bedroom being let, as in the majority of cases, to a paying guest, may in the meanwhile occupy the attention of practical men and women. I have not dealt with the question of the cost of erection, but my private opinion is that good and durable double cottages with three bedrooms, a kitchen-sitting-room in one and scullery, cannot be built for less than £175 each, and the single cottage, with or without parlour, at a somewhat higher figure.—BARRINGTON.

By the Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham.

I entirely agree with you as to the vital character of the question of providing, if possible, inexpensive houses for agricultural labourers which shall not be an eyesore on the countryside. I may say that from personal experience I have found it very difficult to compete with the hideous boxes of red brick and blue slate which are run up by speculating builders in the outskirts of large villages. I find that the labourers themselves, although it is possible they may have some feeling for picturesque surroundings, do not let this weigh against the consideration of a lower rent, and, indeed, one can hardly blame them. It may be said, of course, that a landlord should be content with a smaller return for the outlay, and take his profit from the eye instead of in the form of rent; but, on the other hand, it must not be forgotten that when a man has a considerable amount of building to do, and only a certain amount of money to do it with, if he elects to put up picturesque buildings, he must be content to put up fewer for the money than if he puts up buildings which the labourers themselves are quite

content to live in. This may mean that some of the people on his estate may have to go without any house room at all. I am far from arguing against the position which you have taken up. In fact, I have always endeavoured to carry out some such views as you advocate in any of the small building operations I have been able to engage in. I do not think that with care, and the proper use of materials suitable for each district, and a study of the admirable works on cottage architecture which have appeared during late years, the cost of a nice looking cottage need very much exceed that of an outrage on all canons of art; and in my own case, I certainly feel so strongly on the point that I had much rather build a cottage which would be an ornament to the countryside, for a return of 2 per cent. or 3 per cent. on the outlay, than one which was a disfigurement to the landscape with a return of 5 per cent. or 6 per cent. But I am only endeavouring to point out that there are many instances in which a man who has to go in for considerable housing expenditure finds himself up against a very unpleasant dilemma. When we come to consider the style of cottage which should be put up I think that there is no hard-and-fast rule, and no one design which would be suitable for all localities. For instance, in some of the Home Counties with plenty of foliage, whitewashed cottages with thatched roofs are a very beautiful object. On the other hand, against a bare hillside a whitewashed house with a slate roof is hardly a thing of beauty. Again, when a suitable roofing can be come by without very great expense, red brick forms a very beautiful cottage, but I know by experience that if it is placed against a grey hillside in, say, Scotland or Wales, it is simply hideous and out of character with the whole of the surrounding scenery. I very much hope to see the discussion which you have initiated productive of much valuable information, and many helpful ideas from those many owners of country land to whom I am quite sure it would appeal.—WINCHILSEA.

By the Member for Hammersmith.

I quite agree with you. It is perfectly scandalous to put up cottages of this description, and I am very much surprised that a body like Emmanuel College should have set so bad an example. I have been struck more than once in my peregrinations through the country by the unnecessarily ugly style of building that is coming into vogue.—WILLIAM BULL.

By the Member for South Gloucestershire.

I hope your leading article will inspire many with the importance of the subject it deals with, and will direct our minds to the real injury which can be done to both eye and character by ugly buildings. It would be a help to many of us if there was, easily procurable, cheap, and thus possible to distribute widely, some pamphlet with illustrations of simple, useful and pretty cottages. One reads these in occasional magazines and journals. The eye, very occasionally, catches a glimpse of them on a railway or motor journey. But to have something by one which could be passed on to the local property owner or small builder, and which would not only show him a pretty picture, but also give him working plans and some details of cost, would enable us all to render a little help in forwarding the beauty and stemming the degradation of the countryside. I wish all good to the cause you urge so eloquently.—ATHELSTAN RENDALL.

By the Member for Mid-Northamptonshire.

It is devoutly to be hoped that when any scheme of cottage housing comes to be considered by Parliament it will not necessarily mean that the cottages to be erected will be of that type, so objectionable from an æsthetic point of view, and so prejudicial to the character of our villages as so many modern cottages unfortunately are. Anyone who has seen the cottages that have been built in Ireland under the Irish Labourers Act cannot but hope that something a little less hideous will be erected on this side of the Irish Channel. The matter of price will, however, enter largely into the question, and all architects and others who have been able to build practicable cottages at a cheap rate will confer a favour upon the community if they will bring them to the notice of the public through the medium of your excellent paper.—H. MANFIELD.

By the Member for West Aberdeenshire.

I am entirely with you and will do my best in Parliament to secure that any cottage property which is erected with public money shall be more artistic and pleasing than modern straight up and down brick and slate blocks of cottages which are as depressing as a dull, rainy day with the wind in the east. The difference in cost would be more than amply repaid in the effect on the tenants and the public.—J. M. HENDERSON.

By the Member for Mid-Lanarkshire.

(A member of the Departmental Committees on the Employment of Children's Act, and on Night Labour for Young Persons.)

I entirely agree with the views which you express, and I think some sort of public action is necessary to prevent the erection of hideous cottages and other buildings. Our towns have in a large degree been made hideous because of the neglect of simplicity and beauty in our buildings. We ought to heed the lesson and save the country. I feel strongly that we shall never arouse the conscience of the public until through our schools we succeed in teaching all our children to love and to understand beauty, and to appreciate the final principles which must be observed in order to secure her.—J. H. WHITEHOUSE.

By the Member for West Leeds.

I am writing to say that I cordially approve of the effort which you are making in COUNTRY LIFE to create a healthier public opinion with regard to the need for a worthier ideal in cottage-building than is exemplified in the deplorable instance at Upminster, illustrated in your columns. I am strongly of opinion that a good cottage cannot be judged merely by air space or economy of erection, but should be built with due regard to the amenities of life both for the neighbours, the passers-by and those who have to live in it.—T. EDMUND HARVEY.

By the Member for Camlachie, Glasgow.

I agree fully with your view that beauty should not be divorced from utility in the building of cottages in our countryside. It is a matter of great importance, whether we consider the inhabitants of the villages or the visitors from the towns.—H. J. MACKINDER.

By the Member for the Louth Division, Lincolnshire.

I quite agree with your article on the great importance of making rural cottages not only useful but attractive. Ninety-nine out of every hundred women would take much more interest in a house which, if not entirely beautiful, is not ugly. No doubt if an institution like Emmanuel College is guilty of building such an atrocity as illustrated in your last week's issue in place of the charming cottage shown on the same page, what can be expected from parish councils, district and municipal authorities, who are supposed to have a keener eye for economy and utility than for beauty, as compared with the ruling authorities of an old educational institution?—T. DAVIES.

By the Member for the Blackfriars Division of Glasgow.

I know little of country life, and, besides, I believe that the provision of good cottages anywhere resolves itself into a question of wages. If labourers were paid a decent wage they could look after their own housing, because they could then afford to pay an economic rent, and houses would be provided for them in the ordinary way. But I gather that you are not concerned with wages, and I will say no more about them except to express the opinion that increased wages should precede anything else which may be done for the agricultural labourer, and that, without that, little can be done on sound lines. But I am entirely with you in your opposition to cheap and nasty cottages; and I feel with you that it would be a bad thing to bring cottages down to the existing level of economic possibilities in the rural districts. The house of a man should be attractive to him and to his children. If it were so, or rather, in proportion as it is so, drink and other evils are lessened. You have my best wishes in your crusade in favour of setting a high standard.—G. N. BARNES.

By the Member for the Tottenham Division, Middlesex.

May I say that I fully agree with what you have written concerning the act of vandalism perpetrated by Emmanuel College, Cambridge. The old cottages which they pulled down may not have been good enough to make it worth while to rebuild or repair, but certainly they could have done something a little more aesthetic than the ugly erection which your photograph depicts. I am not without hope that the great interest which is just now being taken in rural housing may result not merely in providing habitable cottages for the agricultural labourer, but in establishing a standard of beauty and fitness which local authorities will insist upon being maintained.—PERCY ALDEN.

By the Member for Tonbridge.

I cordially agree with you that it would be a national outrage if public bodies or corporations should disfigure our country-side with monstrosities similar to that which has been built by Emmanuel College. At the same time, it must be remembered how impossible it is at the present time for a public body or a private landowner to erect attractive, well built cottages at a price which would give a fair return on the capital expended. Every year the cost of building seems to grow, and it is impossible for many, especially agricultural labourers, to pay an economic rent. I agree with your leading article that good work and simplicity are the objects to be aimed at, but it is astonishing how expensive these qualities are when designing cottage property.—H. SPENDER CLAY.

By the Member for the Leix Division, Queen's County.

I have read your leading article on the subject of rural housing, and I am fully in accord with the view expressed as to the necessity of having well designed cottages erected instead of those ugly dwellings which are an eyesore in many rural districts. Environment has the greatest influence on social life, home happiness and morality, and the occupier of a well placed, well designed cottage will take a pride in the keeping of same.—PAT A. MEEHAN.

By the Member for North Essex.

Briefly, my sympathies are entirely with you and with your correspondent, Mr. Robert Halls. The photographs sent by Mr. Halls fill one with despairing fury; the hideousness of the blatant brick box for which Emmanuel has made itself responsible is almost incredible. As regards your suggested solution of various standard designs for cottages, it probably is the most practical plan. There are obvious draw-backs, as you mention in your leading article. It almost appears desirable to start a campaign to convince local authorities and others that beauty, utility and economy go well together in harness, and that men of past ages combined great artistic merit with a standard of utility which we seldom reach nowadays. If my services can be of use at any time I gladly place them at your disposal. The only reservation I make is that cottages there must be, and if those in a position to dictate and form public taste cannot agree, then the rest of us must support a policy of ugly utility. I earnestly hope, however, that nowadays, with so great a revival in the love of the beautiful taking place, the followers of the Emmanuel school of cottage architecture are an insignificant minority of the public.—CECIL BECK.

By the Member for South Bristol.

I am very glad that you are championing the cause of artistic labourers' cottages. Now that the nation is really awakening to the necessity of providing more houses in rural districts, it is incumbent upon a paper such as yours to speak strongly against the possibility of the country-side being made as hideous as some parts of our large cities have been in the past through the erection of rows of houses in which the elements of pleasant effect are wholly wanting. If there is one thing more than another that strikes a traveller through our country districts, it is the beauty of the country-side and the old houses built for labourers, which, although sadly lacking in accommodation, yet with their old thatched roofs have a very pleasing effect, and it is to be hoped that for any new houses which may in the next few years be built throughout the rural districts an effort will be made to conserve somewhat the pleasing effects of the old rural cottage, with greater regard for interior comfort.—WILLIAM HOWELL DAVIES.

By the Member for the Haggerston Division, Shoreditch.

I have read with interest the articles on rural cottages which have appeared in *COUNTRY LIFE*, and quite agree with you that whatever else is done in connection with the housing of the people in the rural districts, every endeavour

must be made to avoid structures which will develop into hovels and slums, and to build in such styles as will afford a fair amount of room and comfort and enable the tenants to take a pride in their appearance both inside and outside. The material and design must keep these points constantly in view. If this is done, I think the standardisation of designs should secure cheapness of production, which will help to solve the difficulty. The question of materials, of course, is one for experts; but certainly they should be such that the buildings should stand, as you suggest, for at least two or three generations. Judging from the photographs, the cottages built by Emmanuel College at Upminster Common seem to possess every vice that such buildings should avoid, particularly that of supreme ugliness. I cannot conceive self-respecting families long maintaining their self-respect in such places, while it would be quite impossible ever for them to take a pride in the appearance of such dwellings.—H. G. CHANCELLOR.

By the Lord Provost of Glasgow.

I have perused your leading article with much interest. The opinions expressed are in entire harmony with my own views enunciated in public again and again; indeed, I had occasion at the opening of our new Fine Art Galleries here some days ago to refer to the subject, when I stated that the Corporation could not better employ their patrimony than in bringing beauty into the daily lives of the citizens, and that the best way to enable our citizens to live beautiful lives was to bring them up in beautiful surroundings.—D. M. STEVENSON.

By the Mayor of Harrogate.

I am, of course, quite in agreement with you that due regard must be paid to the question of appearance, and it is difficult to imagine the existence of anyone who would not agree with you in that contention. At the same time, it must be remembered that it is very important at the present time that those who are interested in the question of rural housing should be able to make known the lowest figure at which cottages can be erected. You say in your letter, "The fact is ignored that economy in building is perfectly consistent with that unaggressive kind of beauty which simply means that a building is well proportioned and fitted to its surroundings." I cannot altogether agree with this thought. I believe it to be a fact that, were a builder to ignore absolutely the question of architectural beauty, he would be able to erect a cottage otherwise suitable at a less figure than if he were to study general appearance. This has been the experience of a trust with which I am connected at York, which has, as you possibly know, recently erected for about ninety pounds one of those cement dwellings of which you apparently disapprove. The building was erected frankly without any desire for appearance, but simply as an object-lesson of what can be done for an extremely small sum, and as an answer to those who are constantly saying that expense stands in the way of rural housing. While admitting that one would not naturally choose to see the country-side covered with such admittedly ugly buildings, yet the necessity for providing adequate housing accommodation for those who, at the present time, simply cannot procure a house at any price is of vastly greater importance. No doubt when the lesson of cheap building has been learned, it will be found that small architectural improvements can readily be made without materially increasing the cost of the building, and, as a matter of fact, the same village trust which erected the building above named is at the present time erecting somewhat more pretentious cottages, though upon the same cheap scale.—JOS. S. ROWNTREE.

[The "cement dwelling" is one of those savings that always turn out dearest in the end. Every labourer knows that clothes and shoes of very low price cost annually far more for renewal than the price of decent, well-wearing body and foot wear. Our opinion is that the erection of these cement dwellings is not only uneconomical, but a sin against progress and morality.—ED.]

By the Chairman of the Surrey County Council.

I have read the leading article in *COUNTRY LIFE* upon the design of country cottages, and may say that I am in hearty accord with the sentiments expressed in it. I hold strongly that a public authority ought to set an example by building cottages that are well proportioned and suitable to their surroundings, and I am convinced from the experience I have had that this can be done without undue expense. I am happy to say that the Surrey County Council has refused to accept cheap utilitarianism as the only consideration in providing cottages for small holders, and I believe that the policy of being willing to spend a little more in order to build a cottage that is substantial and an ornament to the neighbourhood is in the end the most economical. In my opinion it is nothing less than a scandal to see so many of the most beautiful parts of England absolutely ruined by the erection of the most hideous buildings, and I trust that public opinion will before long realise that public authorities ought not to be allowed to spend public money for the purpose of adding to them.—A. W. CHAPMAN.

By the Chairman of the Liverpool Housing Committee.

I have just received your leading article on the above subject and a photograph of the cottages built by Emmanuel College. The authorities of Emmanuel College show themselves to be without much sympathy for the working classes, and lamentably behind the times as regards design. They show themselves to be quite out of touch with that modern spirit which reveals itself in efforts to associate brightness and beauty with the homes of the people. Incidentally, the attempt of Emmanuel College at housing the people has the advantage of raising the question: "How much longer should those landlords who so exercise their trust remain altogether uncontrolled?" I think the local authority should be clothed with powers enabling them to exercise some control over material, design, plan and elevation, and a healthy public opinion would compel the local authority so to exercise its powers as to prevent the erection of such depressing-looking cottages. I agree with you that environment has the greatest possible effect in every direction. Depressing surroundings depress the people; beautiful surroundings elevate and refine the people. I enclose you a copy of the latest report of the Liverpool Housing Committee, of which I am chairman, and if you will refer to the photographs opposite pages 21, 22, 23, 27, 30, 37, 65, 76 and 77 I think you will agree

that design has not been forgotten. The people inhabiting them formerly lived in the vilest court houses in Liverpool, which stood on the ground now occupied by the new buildings. For the insanitary houses they lived in they paid a rent averaging 3s. 6d. per week. We believe that the best material, beauty of design and workmanship is the cheapest in the long run, and though the cost is great, it is more than recouped in the lessened necessity for hospital accommodation, owing to the diminution of disease. Though the additional expense caused by beauty of design is comparatively small, the cost of securing permanence and good finish is expensive. In order to obtain the advantage of a loan repayable for buildings in sixty years, for land in eighty years, local authorities must build so as to secure permanence and good workmanship, and rents to cover outgoings must be much higher than the ordinary labouring poor can afford. Hence many local authorities anticipating a loss to be made good by the ratepayers are loath to build. Accordingly, I think the State should come to their assistance with loans at a rate of interest not exceeding 2½ per cent., the amount the State pays to its Savings Bank depositors. This would afford the necessary stimulus.—G. KYFFIN-TAYLOR.

[The Liverpool houses are very good, but our immediate concern is with rural cottages.—Ed.]

By the Chairman of Staines Rural District Council.

I find myself in entire agreement with the sentiment expressed in the very admirable article published in *COUNTRY LIFE*, of the 11th inst., under the heading "Comfort and Comeliness," and wish you every success in your efforts to secure the realisation of that ideal. No one hates "the brick box and slate roof" type of cottage more than I do, and I trust that in any scheme put forward by either of the political parties for the provision of the much needed hundred thousand new cottages for rural England, a real effort will be made to secure a cheap, commodious and comfortable house for the tiller of the soil which shall be at least devoid of ugliness. I note that you give figures as to the cost of cottages erected on the estate of Mr. A. H. Clough; do the sums mentioned include cost of land, drainage and foundations?—ROWLAND R. ROBBINS.

[No, it does not include cost of land, but this is a trifle. The drainage is by earth closet, foundations are included.—Ed.]

By the Mayor of Richmond.

I am glad to note that you have taken up the question of design of the thousands of new cottages which will be built in the next few years. There is no reason why they should not be beautiful in proportion, and restful in appearance. What Emmanuel College has done is just what might be expected of Emmanuel, which is itself an ugly excrecence on Cambridge. There is no reason why other landowners should imitate them. We have erected in Richmond about a hundred and fifty workmen's dwellings, which people from all parts come to see and copy. We do not pretend that these cottages are objects of decorative art. But they are admirable in proportion and suitability, and the extra cost of making them so was trifling.—F. J. BISGOOD.

By the Chairman of Eaton Socon Rural District Council.

I have read your notes on the housing question, and I agree it should not be a party question, for it is a real grievance, and all fair-minded Englishmen should be willing to face it. The first step to improve the lot of the rural labourer is to provide him with a suitable home; more than half of the immorality is caused by the indecent surroundings. It is no use tinkering with the matter; we must have cottages that will last and, as you say, serve several generations; not of the Emmanuel type, that look only fit for a granary. They must be attractive, with at least five rooms, viz., two downstairs and three bedrooms, also plenty of light. Our rural council is continually faced with the need of more houses. Our officers report nearly every meeting on cottages that should be closed, and we should close them. But there is nowhere for the people to go. I hope the Press of this country will do all they can to bring the matter before the public.—W. BAILEY.

By the Mayor of Bromley.

I am fully in accord with what you say in the article contained in your issue of the 11th inst. As an ardent lover of the picturesque corners of the English country-side, which are unmatched in any other country I am acquainted with, and which, alas! have been too rapidly vanishing, it has been with very serious apprehensions that one has followed the movement for rural re-housing. I am satisfied that it is quite possible to replace without extravagant cost such old dwellings as cannot be retained by others possessing similar characteristics, and that where additional houses are required these can be erected to harmonise with their environment at as reasonable an outlay as otherwise. I do not know that my opinion is of any value, but if you consider that it will help in any degree to prevent the perpetration of such atrocities as shown in your issue of the 4th inst. you are quite welcome to publish it.—G. W. WEEKS.

By Mr. J. E. Shaw, M.B.

As a regular subscriber to your wholly admirable paper I had noticed your leading article and the two blocks displaying the past and present of a cottage at Upminster Common. It is difficult to find forms of expression sufficiently severe by which to record one's indignation at the detestable policy of the authorities of Emmanuel College—Goths and Vandals we may call them, but in doing so we libel grossly the Goths, of whose artistic feeling and achievement your own columns have just given proof. These authorities are presumably irresponsible persons, with no thought higher than the building of a jerry-built cheap erection which will comply with the regulations of the local sanitary authority—Quis custodiet custodes? Apparently no one can, in fact, but I trust that your columns will draw down upon them the well-deserved reprehension of every right-feeling individual.—J. E. SHAW.

By the Mayor of Poplar.

Everyone who has the well-being of his fellows at heart is endeared to you for the manner in which you are keeping this matter before the public. When

one looks at the long rows of ugly houses being put up in some of our London suburbs, one is driven to the conclusion that as London spreads out, these houses will eventually be the means of perpetuating the evils now existing in some of the worst quarters in London. People of any refinement will leave them as opportunity arises, and a class who do not care what they live in will be attracted by the lower rents which will have to be taken for them and the whole neighbourhood gradually becomes a slum. If the same plan of houses is pursued in the country cottages it will indeed be deplorable. As *COUNTRY LIFE* suggests, some good cheap models are badly needed, particularly if local authorities are concerned in the building. I wish you every success in your efforts.—E. J. ALDRICK.

By the Chairman of Hereford County Council.

Within my own observation a very large number of cottages have been built by landowners, with more regard to comfort and appearance than to profit. They will not continue in the same course, because their position in the country has been destroyed. We must have a fresh set of owners under new conditions before capital will be again spent on the land. The country gentleman of the future must both own and farm his estate. He will then see that his men are properly paid and housed. Cottages provided by any public authority will certainly be bad and ugly. What could be worse than the buildings which county councils, in their desire to keep down rents, are erecting on the new small holdings? I am ashamed of them.—R. PRESCOTT-DECIE.

THE SEARCH FOR CHEAPNESS.

THE cottage at Merrow, near Guildford, designed by Mr. Arnold Mitchell and built for £110 in answer to a challenge by Mr. St. Loe Strachey, was described in the *Times* and *Spectator* on Saturday last. A perspective view also appeared in the *Times*, but whereas the article refers only to the single cottage which has been built, the perspective shows a pair of these cottages headed "A Cottage for £110." This is highly misleading, as the design is made to take on an architectural seamliness which is not achieved when it is used for a single cottage. Had a block of three been labelled similarly, it would have been still more attractive. The sum of £110 seems to open a door of hope to those who desire to house the agricultural labourer decently at an economic rent. It is desirable, therefore, in view of the



THE £110 COTTAGE: FRONT VIEW.

publicity given to it, to examine the planning, construction and equipment of the cottage as built. This it is possible to do in the light of the two photographs and the plans and section of the cottage now published. The plans were made from a survey of the cottage as built, and may be inaccurate in one or two trivial details, but for the purposes of this discussion they may be regarded as correct.

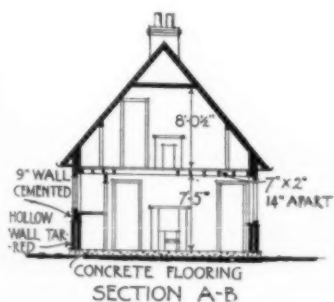
ACCOMMODATION AND DIMENSIONS OF ROOMS.

The entrance door on the west side opens directly into the living-room, and the fireplace is between this door and

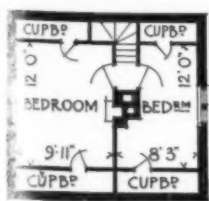


THE £110 COTTAGE: BACK VIEW.
A, Larder window; B, Earth closet door.

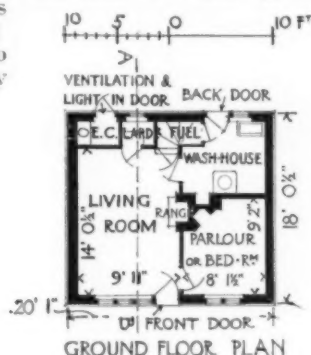
the doors to the scullery and staircase. The cottager sitting by his fireside would therefore always be in a draught. The size of this room is 14ft. by 9ft. 11in., which gives a floor area of 140ft. It is 7ft. 5in. in height to the under side of the joists and 8ft. to the floor boards above. This gives a cubic content of 1,112 cubic feet, after deducting space occupied by joists. On the east side of the room is a door to the larder, which for no very apparent reason has a window of the size used throughout the cottage. The morning sun would therefore have free play on the eatables, which suggests that the zeal for standardising the structural parts of the cottage has been carried too far. A door in the south-east corner of the room leads to the scullery, which contains a fireplace, a copper built out into the room, a sink with a simple



filled wood store disconnected from the cottage, and this is a practical necessity.) There is an outer door to the scullery, giving access to the earth closet. This has a separate door to the outside. It is unpleasantly close to the larder window, and there is only a very thin partition between the two. The earth closet should not be under the main roof at all, but to provide it at a distance would increase cost. Returning to the living-room, we find at the north-west corner a door to a little room 9ft. 2in. by 8ft. 1 1/2in., which has a fireplace. This is available as a small parlour, but would be more often used as a third bedroom. Its floor space contains 67 square feet, and its cubic content is 530 cubic feet. On going upstairs we find two bedrooms. The larger is 12ft. by



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

9ft. 11in., and the slope of the roof begins 4ft. 6in. from the floor-level. Its cubic content is 832ft., which is quite insufficient for two sleepers, and it has a fireplace. The second bedroom is 12ft. by 8ft. 3in., with a large deduction for the entire chimney stack of the cottage and part of the staircase. This makes it an inconvenient shape, and more than half the room is only 5ft. 9in. in width. It has a floor area of 77 square feet and a cubic content of 550 cubic feet, which is only just suitable for one sleeper, not two. There is no fireplace in this room, but a small ventilator has been provided in the chimney. Both upstairs bedrooms have cupboards which utilise the triangular space left by the slope of the roof, but their shape makes them hopelessly inconvenient for storage, and they are, in fact, hardly to be dignified by the name of cupboards. The dimensions of the best bedroom are much below what is known as the Letchworth standard of 1,070 cubic feet, which may be regarded as the irreducible minimum for the health of a married couple and infant. Speaking generally, Mr. Strachey's £150 weather-boarded cottage, which is also illustrated, though not very slightly, is a far more serious contribution to the housing question, for at least its rooms are of adequate size.

MATERIALS, CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT.

The foundation appears to consist of a layer of about six inches of cement concrete, which, with a rendering of cement, forms the floor surface downstairs. The walls are two bricks thick, built hollow and tarred for a height of 2ft. 6in., and solid above, cemented and whitewashed. The roof begins at the first floor level and is covered with pantiles. The first floor consists of flooring boards laid direct on the joists, with nothing in the nature of a ceiling beneath. Although the absence of the latter is a short cut to increasing the cubic contents of the ground floor rooms, it is a very dubious way of saving money. Anything spilt, not necessarily water, on the bedroom floor might easily find its way through the cracks of the floor-boards on to the dinner table beneath, and even the slightest noise upstairs will be heard. The fireplaces in such



MR. ST. LOE STRACHEY'S £150 BLACK WEATHER-BOARDED COTTAGE.

cottages must necessarily be cheap, but a 2ft. closed range in the kitchen would be "gey ill" to live with and cook by.

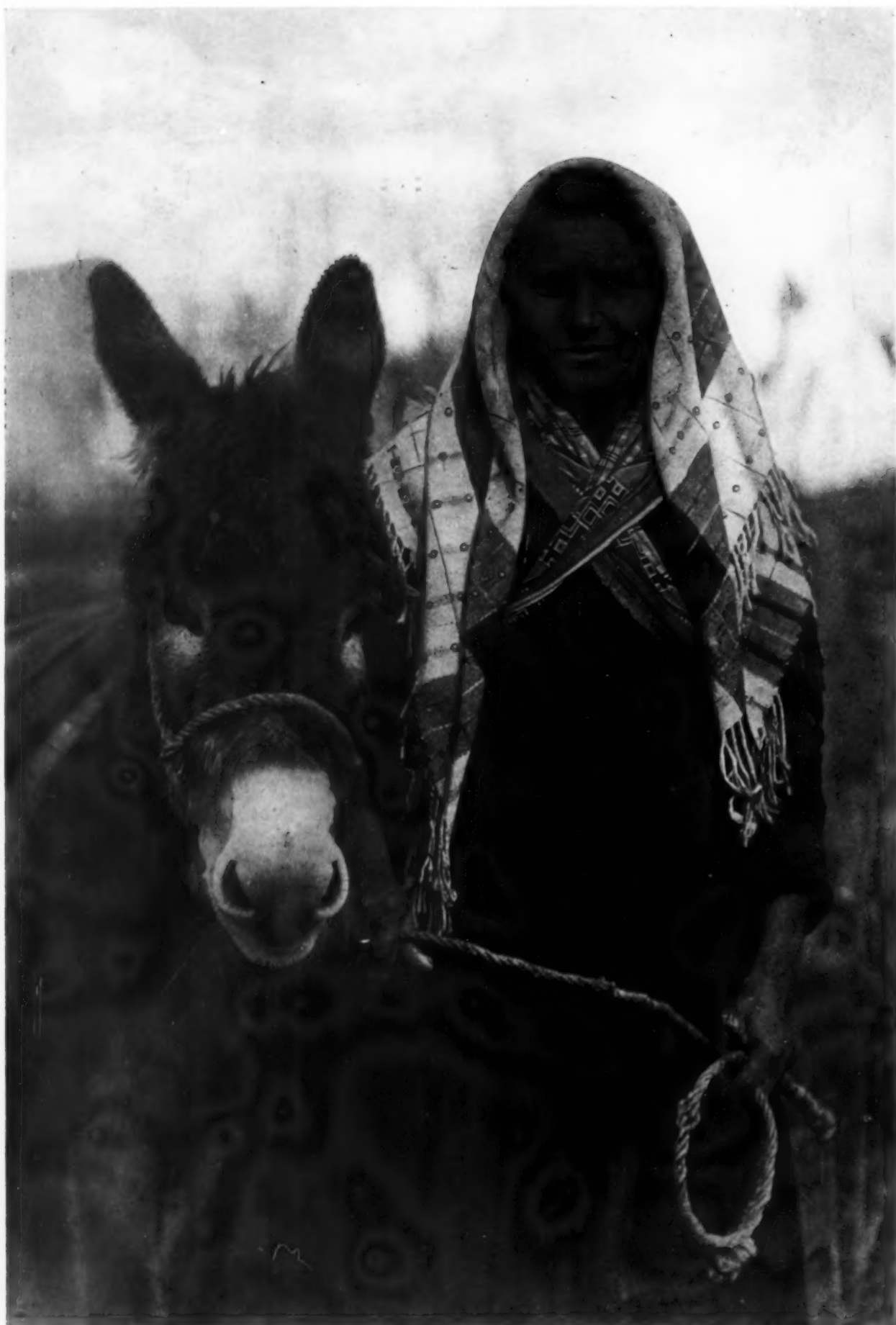
COST.

The *Times* article states that the cottage, excluding land, cost £110, and that a small cottage has been built near Chelmsford from the same plans for £100. Its total cubic content (measured outside the walls and from below the 6in. of concrete on the ground to halfway up the roof) works out at 5,315 cubic feet, which makes the cubic foot price a shade under fivepence. This is, after all, in no way a remarkable figure, and it means that the low price of £110 has been achieved by the simple process of cutting down accommodation and equipment. If, moreover, this design were built as a pair, as the sketch in the *Times* suggests, it is obvious that on one side or another there would have to be a dormer window for one of the bedrooms. When built as a single cottage, the two bedrooms have their windows in the gable ends. As soon as dormers are introduced, the cost of construction is necessarily increased.

THE STANDARD COTTAGE.

It appears to be contemplated that this cottage should be adopted as a standard. To do so would be to give a fatal set-back to the building of adequate cottages.

LAWRENCE WEAVER.



AN ITALIAN PEASANT.



TALES OF COUNTRY LIFE.

THE FAIRY CLOGS.

BY
H. B. H.



MRS. HODGSON scrubbed the blue flag-stones because it was Saturday—swisher, swisher, went her scrubbing-brush. Mary Feirn,

her sister, polished the fire-irons and brass candlesticks. The matting was rolled up; the fender lay on the couch; the coal-scuttle sat in the rocking-chair; and the rest of the chairs and oddments reposed upon the kitchen table. Mrs. Hodgson, on her knees, wriggling backwards towards the door, in the course of scrubbing conversed volubly about the inferior quality of latter-day stockings, and the rise in sugar, and, above all, how much should be kept for curing when the butcher killed the pig—whether both flitches, or one flitch and a hand? She got to the doorstep at the question of trotters. She helped herself up by the door-check—stout, capable, with nippy red elbows—and took her pail across the yard to the sack-bound pump. A gale of wind blustered her petticoats and blew wisps of hair about her smiling, broad face.

"Now, mind yourself upon that ice, Agnes Ann," said Mary Feirn; "the children have made slides something sinful."

Mrs. Hodgson piloted herself and the pail safely back. The wind blew half a gale from the north; it roared in the ashes; even in the sunny yard the ground was freezing. Down the field the wintering hogs tramped disconsolately over the frosty grass and pulled at the bushes. Whitey-brown reed-beds bobbed and danced and rippled in the sunshine and tearing wind. Beyond them the frozen lake gleamed like the steel that Mary Feirn was polishing in the doorway. There had been no wind when the frost came; the lake was frozen from end to end—black, clear, mysterious. The green weed in the depths showed through the ice, as through dusky bottle-glass. Above, in the upper air, Snawfell shone dazzling white against the cloudless blue.

"Give us a sup of hot water from the boiler, Mary; it freezes afore I can get my brush out," said Mrs. Hodgson.

She proceeded to coat the doorstep with a sheet of ice, and then sprinkled it with cinders, according to the perverse habit of housewives in winter.

"Be the children coming back to luncheon, Agnes Ann?"

"Nay; I gave them a piece—bread and blackberry jam—to get shut of them. I doubt they are gone to Auntie Meg's."

But they had not.

Mrs. Hodgson and Mary, having "redded up" the kitchen, turned their attention to the pantry, conversing still about pig. Roused by a discovery of cockroaches, and secure in the knowledge that Mathew was unlikely to return from market before four o'clock, they next routed out a recess beside the kitchen chimney, where he kept a miscellany of treasures. They were rewarded by finding a pair of pliers, long mislaid, and a secret hoard of string; and they upset a bag of shot into the fender. Subsequently, they tidied themselves, and took a cup of tea and bread and butter, by way of dinner, at two. They put on the kettle after another perilous journey to the pump, and sat down by the fire to darn the offending stockings. Wind and sun were dropping together. The sticks burnt crisp and crackly.

"Be n't you fidgetted about them children, Agnes Ann?"

"Wait till you have a pair of pickles of your own, sister. 'Tis the one time I'm none fidgetted—in a black frost. They cannot fall in nowhere. A plague it is to dwell with young childer beside a lake. Auntie Meg will bring them back at tea-time, never fear."

But she did not; they arrived unexpectedly, in state, at a quarter to three. A cart rumbled up to the door.

"Save us, that cannot be Mathew? I meant to toast him a widge. It does not tread like Daisy."

"Hey, missus! Missus! Come out there!" cried a cheery voice.

"Good even to you, Mr. Carradus. A fine dry frost!"

"Fine, mum," said old Mr. Carradus, twinkling and rosy, with a drop at the end of his nose.

"And how's Mrs. Carradus?"

"Oo, aye, she's fine, thank ye."

"And the prize heifer, has she calved yet?"

"Fine," said Mr. Carradus, with an absent manner. "Aye, aye, a fine frost! 'Tis a roan bull calf."

His eye roved round the yard and fixed on Mary.

"This is my sister, Miss Feirn, from Lowthwaite."

Old Mr. Carradus bowed profoundly, as it were from a hinge on the cart seat; he winked elaborately at Mary, who collapsed into giggles behind a blue check apron.

"And how's the market to-day, Mr. Carradus? Mathew took a cart of 'taters, in sacks well hopped up; but the silliest idea ever I see, in such a like frost. They do say 'taters would be up to sevenpence—hev you been buying a pig, Mr. Carradus?"

The old man was preoccupied in keeping something quiet beneath a blanket under his legs. He looked quizzically at Mrs. Hodgson over his nose, and winked again at Mary. "Hev you lost ere a two lile bit Herdwicks, Mrs. Hodgson? A lile bit fat ewe hoggie and a lile bit tup, with a red muffle—he! he! he!—a red pop at the back of its neck?"

"Ours is popped near and bitted fur; and the wintering hogs is tar-marked with a 'T' on the near ribs—"

"Do you mean to tell me you've none missed them?" said old Mr. Carradus, staring very hard and keeping down the blanket with his foot. It bulged, and broke into lamentations. A fat little girl of three pushed her head out.

"Boo-hoo! I want my dinner, Auntie Mary! Boo-hoo!"

"I'm coom back. I'm warm," said a fine little boy of four, sucking a stick of peppermint rock and struggling up between the knees of old Mr. Carradus. ("A lile bit Herdwick! We mun punch him on t' ear if he strays!")

"Bless us, it's the childer," said Mrs. Hodgson, calmly, "and you taken the trouble to open three gates. But happen you've a message for Mathew?"

"D'ye know where they've been to, woman?" (A cool hand, for sure!)

"To their Auntie Meg's, Mrs. Fleming's, at the Riddings. Which a fine job Fleming's had with yon horse he bought at Tod-caster Fair."

"Woman!" said Mr. Carradus, impressively, "I caught them on the ice at Silverholme."

"Get along with you, Mr. Carradus! Which the man telled him that selled it."

"Where?" interrupted Mary. "Why, 'tis seven miles by road and four across the water!"

"I'm much obliged to you for giving them the pleasure of a lift, Mister Carradus—from the Pig and Whistle (aside). They dearly loves a trap."

"Don't mention it, mum, don't mention it," said Mr. Carradus, stand-offishly. He bestowed the blanket round his legs. "Good day, Miss Mary! Ta-tah! lile bit Herdwicks! I wish you good evening, Mrs. Hodgson," said old Mr. Carradus, with a grand manner, turning his horse's head. As he drove out at the gate he looked over his shoulder and shouted: "I'll pound 'em next time, Mrs. Hodgson, I'll pound 'em!" The joke refreshed him so much that he drove off twinkling.

Poor old Mr. Carradus; it was a flat ending to his little "ro-mance," and none too much time to get home the west way of the lake with no cart-lamp. He had left undone half his own errands as he passed through the town to hurry home the little lost lambs to the anxious mother who had never missed them. Old Carradus had spied the children crying on the ice, behind the shelter of an island, as he jogged along the lakeside road to market in the teeth of a bellowing north-east wind. The gale had brought the little lad's shouts to his none too quick ears. He tied his horse to a gate and went upon the ice, where he sat down painfully. It was like glass. The difficulty which he experienced in struggling fifty yards against the wind made him more ready to believe the children's story. According to their confused account, they had "swummed" from top end of the lake.

"Swummed? Skated you mean, my mannie. Why, 'tis four miles; but it's right down the wind in truth. And what might your name be? Tommy Hodgson? Sure, the lile one has a look of Mathew. She could never come four mile; she can scarce toddle. But there's no house this end you can have come from. Catch hold of my coat tails, I'll take you rightyway!" He steered the children to the shore over the last strip of ice. The little

roundabout girl in her cloak and petticoats caught the wind like a wherry. "For sure, they *have* been blown upon their clog-irons like skates. 'Tis a ro-mance," said old Carradus.

Mrs. Rawlings, at the first cottage he came to, agreed with him. "There's none children of that age and looks at this end of the water." She lent him a blanket; the girl was very sleepy.

He spoke to one or two on the road. One had seen some little dark thing scudding before the wind in the middle of the frozen lake. He had taken it for a dog; but it might well have been two children hand in hand. "That settles it," said old Carradus; "'tis a ro-mance."

He told his story to the saddler and to the grocer, but hurried out of the latter's shop, having bought peppermint rock and forgotten his wife's parcels. The grocer had suggested that Mathew Hodgson was in the market-place, and wanted to call him. But Mr. Carradus reflected that Mathew was unalarmed and not demonstrative, whereas Agnes Ann would be distraught and truly grateful. . . . It was flat, very flat, to be received with incredulity. But it was a happy thought to threaten her with the pound for her stray offspring next time she lost them. Old Mr. Carradus smiled placidly as his well-sharpened horse picked its way carefully home by the longer west road. His own "lile bit lambie" slept quietly under the frosty grass—a little lass carried off by the fever in long past years. His eyes had twinkled as he lifted fat little Mary Hodgson into his cart. "But it wears with time; it hurt awhile; but it wears. She is safe at rest in the fold." His old woman was sympathetic, and forgave him for forgetting the new milk-pan and two dozen of salts and the soda, and three other knots in his red cotton pocket-handkerchief; they could be got on Monday when Neighbour Thompson goes in for coal; and he will take back the blanket borrowed of Mrs. Rawlings at Nab Wood. Mathew heard the strange story soon enough in the market. He rattled home pell-mell in his empty 'tater cart, and burst into the kitchen. He was younger than Mrs. Hodgson; mild eyed, with long-legged, shambling gait, and fair hair.

"Hev they come, mother? Are they starved? Will I fetch Dr. Peter?"

"Dr. Pills? Fudge!" said Mrs. Hodgson, fussing about with the teapot and toasted muffin. "It's a pack of lies. As if they could run four mile—more partic'lar Polly."

When a person sets up for a monument of capability and good housekeeping, it is disconcerting to have had two children strayed for five hours without missing them.

"They're no worse, Mathew"—seeing her man's pitiful anxiety—"they've had some hot bread and milk, and Mary's laid them to bed."

"They could not keep their eyes open, they were that sleepy with the wind. 'Deed, they are no worse, Mathew," said Mary Feirn.

The father creaked upstairs to look at them. He came down presently, blowing his nose, and went out to stable his horse. He ate his tea rather silently. Mrs. Hodgson said no word about having failed to miss the children. But she apologised for upsetting the bag of shot. Mathew reddened to the tips of his ears. He had never in the course of his married life received an apology from Agnes Ann; he did not quite know how to take it. It seemed prudent to let the matter pass. He lit his pipe. Little voices were heard overhead. Mrs. Hodgson and Mary were busy cutting out baby clothes upon the cleared kitchen table. Mathew went upstairs and fetched down the runaways; one on each knee in the corner of the settle. How fat they were; how warm and cuddly! Little pink ears and shiny plump cheeks; soft fluffy flaxen hair against his chin and whiskers, and stumpy, worn shoes kicking against his knees. Mathew hugged them closer.

"It blew—it blew—it blew!" said Tommy, "and it tatched her pet-titoats, and I hung on till her—"

"Tatch 'em, tatch 'em, tatch 'em! Oh, zee *pitty* fairies!" crowed little Polly.

"Zur was little teeny weeny fairies dancing—the beech leaves was *full* of fairies, they danced wiv us all across the lake—" (Fairies?—good angels that kept them off the well-heads where the wild-duck swatter and the ice skims thinly.)

Mathew shuddered and hugged them closer. "Did you none try to turn back, Tommy?"

"Me couldn't, dada; me went wiv my legs, and my clogs swimmid after the fairies!"

"'Tis the clog irons, mother; they've slid up the ice before the wind, like a sledge."

Mathew was no quick scholar; neither was old Mr. Carradus. It took the latter almost as long to read this heartfelt epistle as it had taken Mathew to write it:

"Tock How jan 21. 18—

Sir

this is thay fuv lins To tel Jas Simpson as A february calver Mid sute Yow wantin try him 12/ Has he as no turnps.

yrs respfl

M. HODGSON.

p.S. i du Thank yow." (Blotted)

DUCK-SHOOTING IN NORFOLK.

FROM the days of the cross-bow Norfolk has been noted for its wildfowl. Its low-lying coast-line, intersected by innumerable estuaries, creeks, rivers and streams, which draw their sluggish currents from vast stretches of fen, swamp, marsh and mereland, provide opportunities for wildfowling unrivalled by any other county in



TEAL ON THE WING!

England, unless it be the sister county of Suffolk. A century ago there were hundreds of thousands of acres of rough fenland and "meal" marshes, saltings and sand-hills adjacent



PICKING UP STRAGGLERS.

to the larger estuaries, such as Lynn Wash, Breydon Water and Wells Creek. But the effect of reclamation works and steam drainage, although it may not materially have altered the outward aspect of the country, has gradually ousted wildfowl, which year by year have diminished in numbers. Old meres, broads and pools, by almost imperceptible degrees, become, year by year, more choked with their weeds and rushes; the flags spread and the islands grow in extent, the dangerous swamp soon finds foothold for bird, beast and man, continual drainage converts it to a marsh, and cultivation does the rest. The reed-bed, cut for litter, soon improves to a rough marsh, cattle in time convert it to a fine marsh, and fine marshes are not the haunt of wildfowl. That wildfowl were plentiful in the county is proved by the number of professional gunners and others who obtained their living from the fowling-piece until comparatively recent times. As an instance, a man named Williams hired the Lakenheath decoy, which ceased working after the railway from Brandon to Ely had been opened. He is said to have cleared one thousand pounds in a single year, and to have sent one and a half tons of fowl to London four times a week; while it is also related by Sir Edward Newton that when Lord Paget (afterwards the celebrated Lord Anglesey) lived at Wretham, George Turner (of bustard-killing notoriety) is said to have shot one hundred and thirty duck on the great mere at one discharge of his fowling-piece.

Norfolk is also the county for mixed bags, and it rarely happens when marshes or low-lying carrs are visited that the varieties of the bag are under a dozen in number. Perhaps Lord Walsingham holds the record for this, as well as for grouse-driving. His lordship's bag at Stanford on the last day of the season in 1889 consisted of the following:

Pheasants	39	Hares	4
Partridges	5	Rabbits	16
Red-legged partridge ..	1	Woodcock	1



IN A REED SWAMP.

Snipe	2	Wood-pigeon	1
Jack snipe	2	Herons	2
Wild duck	23	Coots	63
Gadwall	6	Moorhens	2
Pochards	4	Otter	1
Golden eye	1	Pike	1
Teal	7	Rat	1
Swans	3		

Besides this remarkable bag, to one gun in one day, other

wildfowl were observed but not bagged, including pintails, tufted duck, wigeons, shovellers, sand grouse, water rails, gulls, kingfishers, etc.

With improvements in agriculture and more effective drainage systems, the duck decoys which dotted the coast and were also found in many an inland pool decreased in proportionate ratio to the fowl. It is not so very many years ago that in the extreme west of the county there were no fewer than



THE FIRST BREAK OVER.

eight working decoys within a few miles of each other, while in all there were at least twenty-six. About one thousand fowl per annum may be regarded as a fair general average take, although some record between two thousand and three thousand in their best seasons. Now the number of working decoys is believed to be under half-a-dozen. It is a mistake to suppose that duck decoys spoil the sport of shooting; in fact, it is just the reverse. An old law of decoys prevented gun-

fire within a considerable distance of the water, whereby absolute rest and security was maintained, and the fowl would remain in the neighbourhood all through the season. Whereas nowadays there seems to be, on public waters, as many gunners as there are mallard; and the constant harassing has the effect of driving the birds out of the country to the more inviting stretches of Brittany or the desolate miasmas of Southern Spain.

Times, however, change, and we with them. The breech-loader necessitated more birds, and the artificial multiplication of game-birds seems to have kept pace with the improvement in the mechanism of sporting firearms. What would our great-grandfathers have said had any sportsman been so bold as to have predicted that, before the century was out, one noble shooter would have recorded to his credit a kill of over one thousand grouse to his own gun in one day? Such a bag of wildfowl they might have believed possible as the doings of the celebrated Captain Hawker were famous then, and wildfowl

were far more numerous. Bags of over a thousand wild duck to a party of guns in a day are now annually recorded; but these birds are not the pure wild strain. They are half-bred wildfowl, or duck having a strong strain of the pure wild blood in them, which are encouraged to, and well exercised in, aerial flight.

In recent years, duck-shooting has found so much favour that few indeed are the big estates where half-bred wildfowl are not reared in very large numbers; in fact, the sport they afford

is appreciated with almost as much enthusiasm as is pheasant-shooting. Norfolk is peculiarly well adapted for this class of sport, as there is hardly a pheasant covert in the county that does not harbour ponds or pools suitable for these birds. They are easy to rear, good homers and afford most excellent sporting shots, as they circle round and round at varying heights after having been shot at a few times. If judiciously distributed they rise with the pheasants and show sport throughout the day, although, as a rule, their first flight is inclined to be lazy unless previously exercised by the keepers, a somewhat difficult matter to successfully manipulate. Where there is a large pond an acre or two in extent, or a small broad or mere, it is customary to guard certain rides in the wood and the approaches to the water by reed screens sufficiently tall to effectually hide the shooter, his dog and loader. As many half-bred duck as possible are reared, and these have the full run of the water all the year round. In October the migratory fowl begin to arrive, and many are attracted by the semi-tame birds and induced to linger some time in their company. On a day selected the guns meet and draw numbers for their stands. A set time for the first gun-fire is fixed, and no one is allowed to shoot until that second has arrived, whatever temptation may come his way. It is a memorable sight, that first peep through the reed screen. There may be several hundred wildfowl of many breeds and varieties splashing and swimming about within a few yards of the concealed shooter. Others may be sitting asleep on the bank or on a small island of sedge roots and tangled vegetation. The



RETRIEVING THE BIRDS.

whole surroundings teem with life; all are unconscious of the disturbing element of man. What a difference when the echoes of the first gun-shot startle and alarm the serenity of these wild creatures! The fowl rise against the wind, the beat of their pinions roaring like a cataract. They circle round once or twice, rising higher and higher as the short, sharp crack of the nitro powders warn them against lowering to leeward; then they wing their flight to distant sanctuaries. The half-bred fowl rise at the general alarm. They take wide sweeps over the water and surrounding woodlands, but soon drop to some favourite nook, from which the keepers oust them again and again, until they fly further afield or fall to the guns behind the screens. A fitting end to a truly sporting bird. NICHOLAS EVERITT.

THE RECENT FARM LABOURERS' STRIKE.

I.—THE DISTRICT AND THE MEN.

THE strike of farm labourers in South-west Lancashire merits more than a brief passing notice. It is one of those rare ebullitions which may well be compared to a volcanic eruption—the outburst of pent-up fires which lie burning and gathering force below the surface, but from time to time give unmistakable evidence of their presence and their strength. And for this reason, as well as for its own inherent interest, it seems to us well worth while to make enquiry into and put on record the history of this upheaval. South-west Lancashire, in which the strike took place, is a very interesting

district from an agricultural point of view. The precise *locus in quo* is a flat, fertile country, consisting of easily worked land, for the products of which there is apparently an inexhaustible market in the city of Liverpool and the towns of Warrington, St. Helens, Wigan and Southport, which practically surround it, and to which the farm produce is mainly carted by road. Moreover, the insatiable markets of Manchester and of the great industrial districts of South Lancashire are within easy reach by rail. To many of our readers the district will at once "come home" when we add that it is the country of the Grand National and the Waterloo Cup; and, having said this, surely there is little, if any, need to say more as to its position and general appearance. But we would remind those to whom geology or agriculture makes appeal that it comprises the fertile and easy-working soil of the New Red Sandstone, flanked to the north by a patch of Red Marl which runs out to the sea and up to the Ribble, and is itself bounded in part by the great stretches of sand and alluvium which are so marked a feature of the Lancashire Coast. The chief landowners in the district under discussion are the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Sefton and the Earl of Lathom. The average area of the farms is, we are informed, about one hundred acres. The rent, of course, varies a good deal; £1 to £2 per acre is a common figure, but it is sometimes as high as £5. The value of agricultural land is usually influenced in some degree at least by its situation. Here it is of great moment, because the produce is usually conveyed to market by road, and hence the distance from a good market town is a matter of much importance. This primitive

method of transport naturally necessitates much road work on the part of the waggoners, who form a numerous class and are usually known in the district as teamsmen. These men, to whose care the horses are entrusted, comprise the chief class and the more highly paid of the workmen who struck. With their duties and pay we will deal directly. There is only one other important class of farm-workers in the district, and thus there were only two classes involved in the struggle, if we exclude women and boys, of whom comparatively few seem to be employed. This second class, then, comprises the labourers proper, whose work, it will readily be understood, is no less important than that of the teamsmen, who transport the fruit of their labour to the markets. As is evident, tillage is practically the labourers' only occupation, for very few stock are kept, and herds and herdsmen and sheep and shepherds are conspicuous by their absence.

We have, then, to consider the conditions as to work and wages in relation to only two chief kinds of labour.

And we should naturally expect to find that those of the former are unduly onerous, and of the latter, totally inadequate. Let us see. The teamsman's work is, by common consent, the more responsible, comprising as it does the care of horses and the use of the larger implements, as well as, in this case, the additional responsibility of frequent journeys by road and the loading and delivery of large quantities of perishable goods. His hours are, therefore, longer, and, as we shall see, his remuneration higher than those of his fellow-workman, who always stays at home on the farm. The teamsman's working day during the busiest season, which is also that of the longest days, is nominally from 6 a.m., when he goes to the stable to get his horses ready to turn out to work an hour later, until 6 p.m., when he and the horses return to the stable. But after this the teamsman has, of course, to feed and dress his charges before leaving for the night. Out of this twelve to thirteen hour day two and a half hours are allowed for meals, viz., half an hour for breakfast, an hour and a-half at mid-day and half an hour for tea. In winter the hours are naturally not so long. So much for the working day on the farm.

But, as has been indicated, the teamsman goes to market twice, and sometimes even three times a week, and then his day is very different. In some districts, we are informed, the men have to turn into the stable at eleven o'clock at night to get their teams ready to go out on the road at or soon after midnight, in order to arrive at the distant town in time for the early produce market, which opens at 5 a.m. On arrival the horses are stabled and fed, the produce is disposed of (a process which usually takes several hours) and the return journey cannot be begun until 10.30 a.m. or later. Home may not be reached until afternoon,

when the horses have again to be seen to before the weary teamsman goes home to bed.

The labourer's day is hardly as long, being abbreviated at each end in comparison with the teamsman's by not having to see to the horses. The labourer, then, goes to work at seven o'clock and finishes at six o'clock, with two and a-half hours off for meals and rest. These two and a-half hours are apparently not divided to correspond exactly with the teamsmen's mealtimes, but are as follows: Breakfast, half an hour; one hour at noon for dinner and an hour in the afternoon. And, of course, these hours, though general, are not uniform. Some men, we were informed, start at 6.30 a.m. and some at 6 a.m., which must seem early in a district where apparently work usually begins at 7 a.m.

So much for hours. With one exception, they do not call for any special comment, being much the same in length at least as those in other parts of England, though it is usual in most districts to begin and finish rather earlier than seems to be the custom in South-west Lancashire. The one exception refers to the days on which the teamsmen go to market, which, to those unaccustomed to the practice, seem long and arduous. But there is plenty of other work, equally long and arduous, which is cheerfully undertaken if the remuneration is adequate. And what do we find here? Let us turn to the rate of wages and see. Again we take the teamsmen first. They are paid—and were paid before the strike—24s. to 26s. a week, and some even received and receive 27s. as a standing weekly wage. There does not appear to be a general rule as to the provision of cottages. Some men apparently get their cottages in addition to their wages, some have to pay for them. Rents run from 2s. 6d. to 4s. a week. But besides this, a curious custom prevails by which additional payments, called "allowances," are made for every road journey the teamsman makes. For short journeys (e.g., to the nearest station) 3d. per journey is paid, but the much more substantial amount of 1s. to 2s. is given for journeys to market towns, the exact

amount being a matter of agreement between the farmer and his man, and depending largely upon the distance to be traversed and the number of times the journey can be done in a day. In the case of carting goods to Liverpool market, which is sometimes done from a radius of ten miles, it is, of course, impossible to go more than once.

It need hardly be pointed out that these payments make a substantial addition to a man's earning capacity, and we were assured that thrifty men can well put by a comfortable sum if they choose.

The labourers are now paid from £1 to 24s. a week; the usual amount appears to be 22s. The same conditions apply as to cottages in their case as in that of the teamsmen, but there are no "allowances" for roadwork in their case. There are, however, allowances of another kind which are common to both classes of men, and which still further improve the teamsman's average wage. These consist of harvest money and the usual perquisites which cost so little but mean so much. Thus manure, and even seed potatoes, are often given by the masters to all their men; they are allowed the use of the farm horses and implements to till their potato patch, and of the horses and carts to fetch coal or take their produce to market if they have such to sell, and in addition it is usual for each man to receive a bonus of £1 as compensation for overtime in hay harvest, a like sum for corn harvest and 10s. for potato getting. And boys employed upon the farm receive half these sums.

So much, then, for work and wages in the rich agricultural district in which the strike occurred. In dealing with such questions it is always difficult to be definite, because conditions vary so much within the district and even from farm to farm. But we have set out above the results of recent careful investigation as being necessary to a clear understanding of the strike itself. And with that we intend to deal next week.

(To be continued.)

THE RECORD OKAPI.

I WAS recently examining some specimens at Messrs. Rowland Ward's in Piccadilly, and there saw a newly mounted skin of a female okapi which struck me as being the tallest specimen which had hitherto reached England. Careful measurements showed that this fine example tapered at the shoulder no less than 5ft. 2in., which, so far as I can learn, is easily a record for this curious mammal. A specimen in the British Museum measures 4ft. 9in. at the withers, and another in the possession of Messrs. Rowland Ward exactly the same height. This last, a male, measures, from the nose to the tip of the tail, 8ft. 2in., while the horn pedicles attain 4in. The big female of which I write measures in length no less than 9ft. 1in., so that for height and length she easily defeats Messrs. Rowland Ward's fine male. It would seem from these measurements that the female okapi attains a greater height and bulk than the male; but further examination of the specimens which from time to time reach Europe will decide whether this is actually so. Meanwhile the presumption seems to be that this is actually the case. The Okapi (*Ocapia Johnstoni*) was unknown to Europeans until the beginning of the present century, although it had inhabited the dense forest region of Central Africa from time immemorial, and was known to a few savage tribes, such as the Semliki Forest pigmies and the Mobatti dwarfs. The first indication of the existence of this extraordinary animal was produced by Sir Harry Johnston in 1900, who in that year forwarded to the late Dr. P. L. Sclater of the Zoological Society two pieces of skin from the Semliki Forest. He also gave the native name, Okapi, by which the animal is now known. These fragments were at first supposed to be portions of the skin of a new species of zebra; but at a later period of the same year Sir Harry Johnston procured and sent to England the complete skin of the animal, which at once established the fact that it belonged to a hitherto entirely unknown species. Sir Ray Lankester, then at the head of the Natural History Museum, at once pronounced the animal to be allied to the giraffes, and gave it the scientific designation of *Ocapia Johnstoni*. This first specimen, that of a female, was at once mounted and placed in the Museum.

The okapi, by the structure of its teeth, the short false horns of the male, the shape of the head, and the somewhat prehensile conformation of the upper lip, is distinctly allied to the giraffe, its nearest equivalent being, probably, as has been pointed out by Mr. R. Lydekker of the British Museum, the extinct *Samotherium* (*Palæotragus*), remains of which have been found in the upper tertiary formation of the Isle of Samos and of Greece. In this animal, as in the Okapi, the males were horned, while the females

were hornless. But in the shape of the body the animal much more nearly approaches some of the antelopes, especially the hartebeestes, the tsesseby and the topi or tiang, whose curious droop in the hind-quarters is singularly reminiscent of the okapi's figure.

The giraffe has been well described by a famous Continental naturalist, Rütimeyer, as "a most fantastic form of deer," and the okapi may, therefore, very well be regarded as a connecting-link between the antelopes and the giraffes. The ears, which are very large and broad, and obviously well calculated for conveying distant sounds, resemble much more those of some of the more bush-loving antelopes,



THE RECORD FEMALE OKAPI.

Height at shoulder 5ft. 2in., length of nose to tip of tail 9ft. 1in.



MALE OKAPI.

Height at shoulder 4ft. 9in., length 8ft. 2in., horn pedicle 4in.

such as koodoo, bongo, and the larger bush-bucks, than they do those of the giraffe. The longish, slender, moderately tufted tail is somewhat giraffe-like. The neck of the okapi is, as may be seen from the illustrations, proportionately much shorter than that of the giraffe.

In colour this singular beast bears no resemblance whatever to the spotted pattern of the giraffes. The body is of a rich purplish chocolate, or dark red. The buttocks and the upper portions of both front and hind legs are curiously striped with black and white horizontal markings, somewhat resembling those of the zebras. The leg shanks are pure white, with broad black rings upon the fetlocks and dark markings down the front of the fore limbs. The feet, it should be said, are more of the antelope type than like the giraffe. The sides of the face are puce-coloured. The head appears to be carried low, and it seems probable that the characteristic attitude of the okapi, the neck outstretched but not uplifted, is identical with that of the gigantic jungle-loving bush buck, the bongo. As a beast of chase, the okapi has proved a grievous disappointment to British sportsmen, scarcely any of whom have even been able to set eyes on this most shy and elusive animal. Even the late Mr. Boyd Alexander, who hunted closely for it in the dreary jungles of the Welle River country, never saw it in the flesh, although he was able to procure and bring home the skin of a male. Its geographical range may be defined as the great Congo Forest region, where, however, the okapi is found but sparingly and in certain secluded localities. Here it dwells singly or in pairs, occasionally as many as three being seen together. These animals produce but one calf at a time, and where three are seen together, these would no doubt include the parents and young animal. The okapi feeds chiefly at night, its food being said to consist of water-loving plants such as the arum, donax and phrynium. On the three occasions when Mr. Boyd Alexander was in close proximity to these animals, although he saw them not, they were concealed in the dense recesses of a large-leaved water plant growing on a single stalk. Yet the okapi is manifestly not nearly so water-frequenting a beast as the situtunga or lechive antelopes, both of which spend the greater part of their time middle deep in water in the swamps, lagoons and reed beds they inhabit. The conformation of the foot of the okapi, so different from the strangely prolonged hoofs of those antelopes, points distinctly to this fact. The pigmies of the Semliki Forest know this animal as *okapi* or *o-api*. In the vicinity of the Albert Edward Nyanza the beast is called *hengi*, and in the Nepo country *makapi*. Now that its skin is much sought after, and therefore valuable, the native hunters are steadily destroying this rare animal, whose numbers were probably never very considerable. It seems not impossible therefore that the okapi, one of the very last great zoological discoveries in the continent of Africa, may approach the verge of extinction long before the giraffe and the vast legions of African antelopes—its nearest kith and kin—have neared that catastrophe.

H. A. BRYDEN.

ANNALS OF THE 60th RIFLES: THE ROYAL AMERICANS.

The Annals of the King's Royal Rifle Corps. Vol. I.—The Royal Americans, by Lewis Butler, formerly a captain in the regiment. With illustrations and maps. (Smith, Elder.)

THE story of the 60th Royal American Regiment of Foot, now so well known as the King's Royal Rifle Corps, is a most remarkable one. Few regiments now existing in the British Army have seen such vicissitudes of service or have more often changed their status, and certainly none has such a long record of foreign service in pestilential climates. Originally raised in 1756 as a four-battalion regiment for the better defence of our American colonies, it consisted mainly of foreigners enlisted for service in America only; and in America only it served until our Colonies rebelled and broke away from us, when it was relegated to the horrors of almost perpetual service in the West Indies, with rare visits to Canada.

Indeed, it was not until 1824 that it was at last brought to England, the foreigners, of which it was so largely composed, having been first eliminated, and it was then placed on the same footing as other regiments of the Line. It was now that it dropped its ancient title of "Royal Americans," under which it had done such good service in the Seven Years' War in America and Canada and in the subsequent expeditions against Redskins, and was styled the 60th "The Duke of York's Own Rifle Corps," a title changed six years later to the 60th "the King's Royal Rifle Corps." Prior to 1824, although there had been a number of rifle corps in the British Service, the Rifle Brigade,

formerly the 95th Rifles, had been the only one formed of British-born subjects, all the others being composed of foreigners. About 1854 the whole Army was armed with rifles, and the title of "Rifles" in consequence lost much of its meaning, as have the titles of "Fusiliers" and "Grenadiers"; nevertheless, the present King's Royal Rifles and the Rifle Brigade are still known to the world as "the rifle regiments" *par excellence*, and are included in one popular cognomen as "The Green Jackets."

When, in 1881, all the Line regiments were ordered to drop their time-honoured numbers, the famous numeral "60" had perforce to go also, much to the genuine regret of many in the regiment. But such is the shortness of human memory that almost exactly a dozen years before this the 60th had applied for leave to drop the numeral of "60" and to be known only as "The King's Royal Rifle Corps." This was, however, refused, and probably few serving nowadays are aware of the circumstance. But there are many parallel cases. Officers will recall how Lord Wolseley incurred much criticism when, in furtherance of Mr. Cardwell's system, he acquiesced in the abolition of the regimental numbers of our Line regiments. He was wont, however, to defend his action on the somewhat humorous grounds that when all regiments had numbers, not a few of them tried, whenever possible, to avoid their use, such as "The Royal Scots," "The Queen's" and others.

From its first inception the Royal Americans were clothed in scarlet and armed with "Brown Bess," the time-honoured uniform and weapon of the British Linesman of those days, and it was not until 1816 that the regiment was ordered to be clothed in green and to be styled "Light Infantry," and again, some years later, before it was armed with rifles. But it would be deemed rank heresy by all 60th men were not the fact to be mentioned here that so far back as 1798 a fifth battalion, composed of German riflemen, was added to it. At this period, and for some years previously, there were a number of regiments of foreign riflemen employed in the British Army, and two of these—Hompesch's Jäger or Light Infantry and Löwenstein's Chasseurs—were amalgamated to form the new 5th Battalion of the 60th in the West Indies.

It may occur to many, how were the ranks of the Royal Americans kept full—there were no less than eight battalions at one time—taking into consideration the unpopularity of permanent Colonial service? And hereby hangs a tale about which Captain Butler, in his book, gives us some particulars and Mr. John Fortescue a few more. Foreign recruits for the 60th were purchased on the Continent at seven guineas a head, and were usually assembled at the 60th Depot, known as "The Foreign Corps Depot," in the Isle of Wight, whence they were drafted into the battalions in America and the West Indies. At other times a cadre was brought from America to the Channel Islands (which, by a legal fiction, was not included in the "United Kingdom," where foreigners were forbidden to serve), and as soon as the ranks were filled from Germany and elsewhere it was sent back to America. But the supply of good German recruits gradually became exhausted. Hence, when, owing to the revolt of the Colonies, more troops were required in America, two new battalions were added to the 60th composed of "German condemned criminals and other species of gaol birds." These, Captain Butler tells us, were "enlisted in Hanover, others in England."

It speaks well for the regiment and its officers that, despite such undesirable elements, portions of these same battalions did good service in the defence of Savannah. Another source of recruiting was now tapped; about 1786–88 there was what Fortescue styles "an appalling amount of desertion in our home Army." Deserters when apprehended were sentenced to "perpetual service abroad" and were drafted in numbers to the 60th. Probably it was owing to this that the 60th acquired the soubriquet of "The Condemned Corps" among the rank and file of the Army about this period. Later on, during the Peninsular War, the far more questionable expedient was adopted of enlisting French prisoners of war and men from the prison ships at home. This was a fatal error, and more especially when such men were drafted into the 5th Battalion serving against the French in Spain. From the first landing in Mondego Bay under Sir Arthur Wellesley in 1808, and subsequently throughout Moore's advance on Salamanca, these riflemen deserted wholesale. No less than one hundred and thirty-three thus went in the last three months of the year! So great was the evil that Moore was compelled to send the battalion back from Portugal, but, unfortunately, not before some of the deserters had disclosed to Napoleon the true direction of Moore's daring march. To turn to brighter topics, the 60th can show with pride a larger number of battle honours than can any other corps. Beginning gloriously at Louisbourg and Quebec under Wolfe, where they earned their fine motto—"Celer et Audax"—not, by the way, as riflemen

but as Grenadiers—they have since been engaged in almost every quarter of the globe. The 5th Battalion alone was granted sixteen honours for its services in the Peninsula, where it was, after the experiences in Portugal with Wellesley and in Spain with Moore, broken up and most of its companies distributed in different brigades. This arrangement, although very favourable for the accumulation of "honours," since it enabled the battalion to vie with the historic bird and be "in two places at once" (for example, at Fuentes d'Onor and Albuera), had also its drawbacks, for it denied to the battalion the opportunity of accomplishing any deed of great historic interest, such as that of the 57th at Albuera. With the end of the Peninsular War in 1814, the European services of the 60th abruptly terminated, and never since that day to this have they set foot on the Continent. For, owing to the nature and condition of their services at this period, no battalion shared in the glories of Quatre Bras or Waterloo, and by sheer bad luck, none was employed in the protracted Crimean Campaign in 1854-56.

In the voluminous Appendix, bound separately, which deals with uniforms and equipment, the late Mr. S. M. Milne, the great expert on military dress, gives an excellent, although all too brief account of these matters; the remainder of the appendix is by Major-General Terry, who sadly lacks method, and whose dreary descriptions of the details of uniforms are at places reminiscent of the tailoring department in one of the Co-operative Stores. Now and again, when he seeks to establish some vexed point, he lacks either the skill or the knowledge to marshal his facts intelligently or to adduce adequate evidence for his somewhat debateable assertions. On the other hand, Captain Butler has done his work uncommonly well and, considering the very wide field he has endeavoured to cover, he has made but few serious mistakes, and he deserves great credit for the courageous way in which he has recorded facts about his regiment which, although well known to all versed in military history, have hitherto not been so plainly or truthfully placed before the reading public.

IN THE GARDEN.

THE JAPANESE WINDFLOWERS.

IN the waning days of autumn, when the morning and evening mists have enshrouded the flowers of the outdoor garden and, in too many instances, marred their beauty, we appreciate those that come out of the ordeal unscathed.

Among the most beautiful of these are the Japanese Windflowers or Anemones, tall yet graceful flowers, quite unlike the dainty little native species that bespangles the greensward of our

Fortunately, the cultivation of the Japanese Anemones does not present any great difficulties. What they do appreciate is deeply cultivated and well-manured soil, and that with a good proportion of clay in it. One is often asked to name plants that will thrive in clay soil, and the Japanese Windflower is one of the best.

As the roots are long and thick, with but few fibres, transplanting is not advisable more often than is absolutely



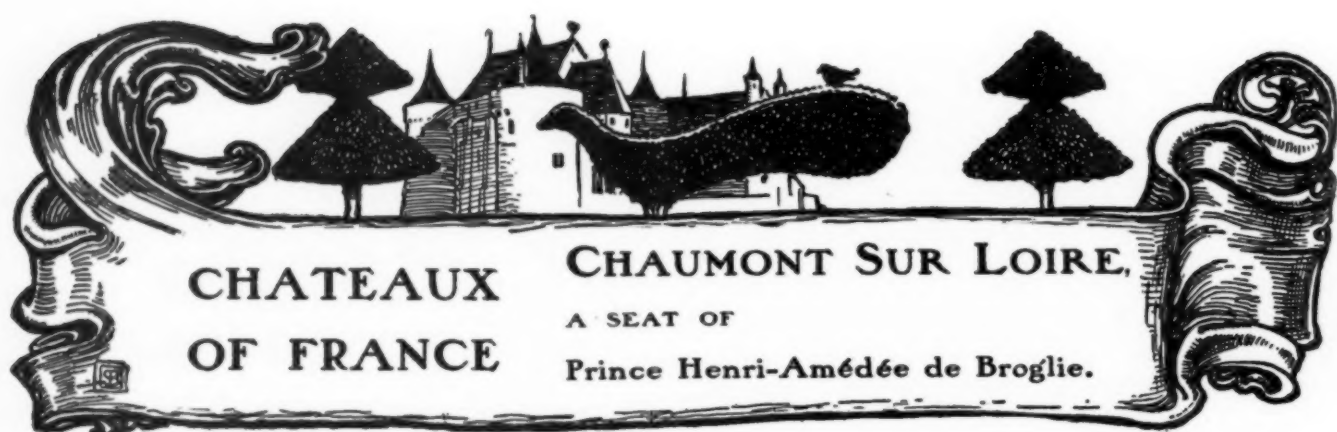
JAPANESE ANEMONES BY THE WATER-SIDE.

coppices in the gusty days of spring. These Japanese Anemones, by their very stature and bearing, are admirably adapted for grouping in the herbaceous border, in large lawn beds, the edges of shrubberies, or by the side of a pond or lake. They are never seen to better advantage, particularly the varieties with white blossoms, than when massed, as in the accompanying illustration, with a background of dark green foliated trees, these serving to accentuate the glistening purity of the daintily poised blossoms. When to the trees water is added, in which the flowers are reflected with a shimmer of light and shade, we begin to realise how indispensable these hardy plants are in the garden at this season. Nor must we overlook their usefulness for cutting. It is almost impossible to arrange them inartistically, their long stems and light, graceful flowers enabling the veriest tyro to create a picture of sublime beauty with these and autumn foliage.

necessary; indeed, a good rule to follow is to disturb the plants as little as possible. In forming new beds or groups in borders the planting may be done in late autumn or early spring, and pieces of root with as many fibres as possible should be given preference to those of a less fibrous character.

Contrary to a widespread belief, the original species has rose-coloured flowers with large bold foliage, and a very useful plant it is. A variety named Honorine Joubert has pure white flowers and is still one of the best for general purposes. Others with white blossoms are Whirlwind, very large and semi-double; and sylvestris, smaller and earlier, with dwarfer habit. A larger form of this is known as grandiflora. There are several beautiful varieties with pink or rose-coloured flowers, notably, Queen Charlotte, very large; rosea, semi-double; Autumn Queen, crispifolia, elegans and Lady Ardilaun.

F. W. H.



THE traveller by train from Blois to Tours passes along wooded slopes affording glimpses of the lazy reaches of the Loire and the low-lying lands beyond. After a few miles the character of the two banks is reversed; the right bank which he is following sinks into a plain, while the left rises somewhat suddenly into a steep eminence and, before the train plunges into leafy glades which obscure the view, he has a brief vision of a group of towers which crowns the height and the village which nestles at its feet. This is Chaumont, now clothed in a luxuriant vegetation which makes it difficult to recognise in it the Calvus Mons or Bald Mount of mediaeval documents.

The castle has many titles to notice apart from the picturesque of its situation and the beauty of the wide prospect

which it commands. It has a long and, at times, a stirring past behind it, full of incidents of more than local interest—a past which more than once has touched the great events of the world's history; and the long list of its occupants is studded with names notable in statecraft, in warfare, in art or in literature. Architecturally it is a very complete if somewhat lavishly restored example of a single period of some fifty years with few traces of subsequent modifications, and the period in question is that exceedingly fascinating one when the Gothic of France was gilded by the rays of what Walter Pater has described as "his last fleeting splendour and temperate St. Martin's Summer," when the memories of the turbulent Middle Ages still cast a spell over the builders, potent enough to perpetuate an array of grim battlements and frowning towers, moats and portcullises, but powerless to exclude either the slender and somewhat feminine graces of native Flamboyant art or the newer alien type of decoration *à la mode d'Italie* which followed in the wake of the dynastic campaigns of Charles VIII. and his successors.

The situation of the hill of Chaumont rendered its choice for a mediaeval castle inevitable, for, apart from its strategic advantages in dominating the rich Loire valley and the land and river routes from the sea to the interior, it possessed the additional attraction of standing on the confines of two powerful countships, so that the sparrowhawk who made Chaumont his eyrie could fish at his ease in the waters troubled by the contending eagles of Blois and Anjou. The first castle, built by Odo I. of Blois in 980, had a succession of castellans who played this risky game, with no little profit to themselves; but they played it once too often, and in 1154 the Lord of Chaumont fell, through a ruse, into the merciless hands of Thibault of Blois, and was roasted alive on a slow fire in the donjon of Châteaudun. His castle was dismantled; but, rebuilt on a larger scale by Thibault a few years later, it had the distinction of being the meeting-place of no less personages than Henry Plantagenet and Thomas à Becket. Here for the third time in three months they met in October, 1170, to attempt to patch up a reconciliation. The interview was outwardly of a friendly character, but the causes of dissension were not removed and the bloody drama of Canterbury followed but a few weeks later.

In the fourteenth century the lordship of Chaumont passed by females into the house of Amboise, which for a century or more played an important role in French history. Pierre d'Amboise fought against the English invaders under the banner of Joan of Arc, and accompanied



Copyright.

THE ENTRANCE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

CHAUMONT FROM THE WEST.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

Charles VII. when he went to be crowned at Rheims. But under the latter's autocratic son he took part in the federation of revolted vassals known under the strangely misleading name of the League of the Public Weal. By guile rather than force Louis XI. soon got the upper hand and dealt out chastisement. The complete demolition of Chaumont was decreed and carried out in 1465 with great thoroughness.

When Pierre d'Amboise died in 1473, he left no less than seventeen children, nearly all of whom were persons of marked ability and of artistic taste. The most distinguished, George, as the Cardinal of Amboise and as minister to Louis XII. and Francis I., was to take a leading part in international politics, to aspire to the papacy, to introduce far-reaching reforms in internal administration, to be one of the chief promoters of Renaissance culture in France and the builder of the fairy palace of Gaillon. His birth in 1460 in the old castle of Chaumont before its destruction is repeatedly commemorated in the present building by the occurrence of his Cardinal's hat in the decoration; but he was never its owner. It was his eldest brother, Charles, who in 1475 obtained not only permission but considerable financial assistance from Louis XI. for the rebuilding, which was far advanced at his death in 1481. The new Chaumont, though attaining considerable dimensions—



Copyright. CORNICE ON EAST SIDE OF COURT. "C.L."

it forms a square of about one hundred and forty feet in diameter, exclusive of the projecting towers—is less extensive than its predecessor, moss-grown fragments of which lie scattered around it. How far, if at all, its plan was determined by the use of old foundations is difficult to discover; but it constituted, at any rate, a fortified castle capable of temporary defence. As built by Charles it had a court enclosed by buildings on all sides, with a single tower at each angle, except at the south-east where there are a pair to guard the entrance. The south side of the court consisted only of a curtain wall, while the northern wing, containing the chapel and overlooking the Loire, appears to have been richest in its architectural treatment.

There was as yet no trace of the new breath from Italy, which first appears in the work of Charles' son, another Charles, who completed the castle, adding the buildings to the south of the court, including the arcaded loggia and octagonal spiral staircase, which recalls, on a smaller scale, the celebrated work of Francis I. at Blois. In these portions there

is every reason to expect evidence of Renaissance influence, for the younger Charles, known in history as the Maréchal de Chaumont, spent much time in Italy, where he distinguished himself in the wars, particularly at the battle of Agnadello. While at Milan, of which city he was Governor, he made the acquaintance



Copyright.

SOUTH SIDE OF COURT: GREAT AND LITTLE STAIRCASES AND ENTRANCE. "COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

THE GREAT STAIRCASE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

of Leonardo da Vinci, and on his return repeatedly visited the fallen Duke Lodovico il Moro in his prison at Loches. Nor is the expectation disappointed, for if the architecture retains the interpenetrating mouldings and complex bases, the dormers and buttresses of mediæval tradition, with its aspiring character and its angularity, much of the detail of decoration betrays the presence, or, at any rate, the influence of Italian carvers; arabesque panels and acanthus scrolls intermingle and contrast strangely with flamelike tracery and curly cabbage crockets, and appear more profusely than in Charles' other great building at Meillant near Bourges. The rich cornice on the east side of the court, with its pinnacles and gargoyles springing from among Italian enrichments and a miniature arcade, filled with the shell ornament in lieu of machicolations, is a notable specimen of this transitional architecture.

The interlacing C's of Charles of Chaumont occupy every available coign of vantage and alternate with a flaming mount

dreary period of her Queen-Consortship, a neglected wife overshadowed by the all powerful and brilliant Diane. Traces of her passage are to be seen here and there in the monogram consisting of the combined H and C or H and crescent, and in certain cabalistic signs on the north-east tower. For in this tower Catharine is said to have installed her astrologer, the Italian Ruggieri, in order to seek with his aid to read the riddles of the future. And in its gloomy upper chamber, a contemporary if not very veracious historian places a scene pregnant with the dramatic doom of her expiring line. Her puny son, Francis, has entered a few months since on his brief reign, and Catherine, anxious at his failing health, gazes under Ruggieri's guidance into a mirror which is to reveal to her the fate of her children. As in Macbeth's vision, the future occupants of the throne appear in turn before her eyes. She sees them pace round a rich chamber, each revolution indicating a year of reign. Her four sons all wear crowns, but one disappears in a mist of blood.

Then follow the King of Navarre, and then one who "wears upon his baby brow the round and top of sovereignty." Catharine will look no more. The vision only proved true by a subterfuge of interpretation, for if her youngest son, the Duke of Alençon, never reigned in France, the explanation that he might have reigned over the Netherlands but for his own vices and criminal folly is given to justify the accuracy of the prophecy. After the futile fashion of the adepts of astrology Catharine strove half to elude and half to fulfil the decrees of Fate by tortuous negotiations to obtain foreign thrones for her younger sons. After a fantastic scheme for placing Henry on that of Algiers, she obtained the Crown of Poland for him, but failed in her endeavours to marry Louis to Elizabeth of England.

This sinister scene, or whatever was its historical prototype, took place in the last days of Catharine's occupation of Chaumont, which she was already preparing to quit for a residence more to her liking. The death of Henry II. had placed her haughty rival at her mercy. Diane, having but too much reason to expect from the Queen the worst reprisals for her long humiliation, lost no time in attempting to avert the storm by the offer of her own splendid palace at Chenonceaux which Catharine was known to covet. But the latter was too proud or too politic to accept a gift from a fallen foe, and insisted on giving Chaumont as an

equivalent. The exchange was effected early in 1560, and Diane was Lady of Chaumont for the six remaining years of her life. That she added some finishing touches is proved by the occurrence of her emblems—bows, quivers and huntsmen's horns—on the battlements. But she had little taste for its somewhat sunless courtyard and the associations it called up, and made her home almost constantly among the more cheerful quadrangles and gardens of Anet.

Her daughter carried Chaumont to the house of Bouillon, where, however, it did not remain long, and throughout the succeeding centuries the list of its owners is one of bewildering variety. At one time we find it visited by Richelieu, still the humble Bishop of Luçon, but already revolving schemes of political advancement. Later on the Duke of St. Aignan, the friend of St. Simon and a colleague of Fénelon in the education of the Duke of Burgundy, was the host at Chaumont of Philip V.



Copyright. ARMS AND EMBLEMS ON RIGHT HAND SIDE OF ENTRANCE. "C.L."

indicating an obvious, albeit incorrect, interpretation of the name of the spot—"Chaudmont." Also these badges supplement in the fashion of the early sixteenth century the strict heraldic bearings of the family: Paly of six, or and gules, with wild men of the woods for supporters and a maiden's head for crest. The thistles appearing in several places are variously explained. They are the emblem of the family order of the House of Bourbon, founded in 1370, and are introduced at Chaumont either in virtue of the kinship of Charles with the founder, or as a compliment to the daughter of Louis XI, Anne of Beaujeu, Duchess of Bourbon, who was regent of the kingdom at the time of the building.

Chaumont passed in the sixteenth century to an heiress, Antoinette d'Amboise, and was sold by her in 1550 to Catharine de' Medici, whose husband had recently ascended the throne. Here the astute Florentine passed not a little time during the

on his way to receive the Crown of Spain, and, in Louis XIV.'s famous phrase, to annihilate the Pyrenees. This was in 1700.

Thirty-nine years later Chaumont had yet another master, one Bertin, who undertook the modernisation according to contemporary ideas of this out-of-date feudal manor house. He took out the gullions of the windows, renovated the roof à la Mansarde, and so forth. A Louis XV. door in our view of the staircase is a relic of his work.

Among his alterations was one which, while it destroyed a considerable portion of the original structure, and completely modified the aspect of the rest, can scarcely be regretted in view of its happy results: it was the pulling down of the north wing and the north-western tower, whose position is indicated approximately by dotted lines on our plan, and the substitution of a balustraded terrace. All trace of mediæval gloom thus disappeared at a blow, light



Copyright.

A FIFTEENTH CENTURY CHIMNEY-PIECE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

and air were admitted into the court, and an entrancing prospect over what eighteenth century writers would have called a "verdant champaign" was thrown open.

A few years later Chaumont changed hands once more. Its new master was a M. Le Ray, Grand Master of Waters and Forests in Touraine, a man of enlightened views, interested in practical reforms and the promotion of industries. He set up in the dependencies of the castle a factory of glass and pottery, utilising

its dovecote, which is still shown, for a kiln. Casting about for a director for his industrial enterprise M. Le Ray, in 1772, hit upon Giambattista Nini of Urbino, a man to whom his varied talents had not as yet brought fortune after a long and adventurous career. He is described as being of dwarfish stature, not more than four feet tall and with arms measuring not more than fifteen inches to the tip of the fingers, with nails



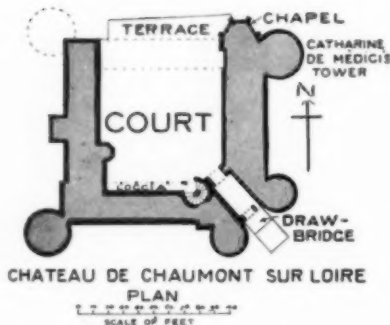
Copyright.

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

kept extremely long to enable him to play a kind of zither, very suspicious of visitors, inordinately vain of his talents and extremely eccentric in his dress, which consisted of garments of the most vivid and ill-assorted colours. In his own country Nini had early gained fame as an engraver and sculptor and, after a sojourn in Spain, he had gravitated to Paris, where he had begun to practise the art of portraiture in terra-cotta. Whatever may have been the results of his directorate upon the products of the factory—and of this nothing is known—Chaumont afforded him a haven where, unburdened by care, he could ply his craft, and at the same time a clay suitable for the purposes of this craft. The portraits betray the hand of a consummate artist, and by their breadth of treatment, perfection of finish and closeness of observation are worthy to rank with the great works of French sculpture.

Chaumont seemed destined never to be long without an inmate of note. In 1809-10 Mme. de Staël was in the midst of her unequal duel with Napoleon. Forbidden to approach within forty leagues of Paris, she came to Chaumont in the course of her wanderings. She asked permission to visit the château and was charmed with its architecture and situation. Though a complete stranger to the absent owner, she announced



that she would stay. This she did for six months, and revived there all the attractions which had made her court at Coppet a rendezvous of all that was most brilliant in the intellectual society of Europe.

After Mme. de Staël's day Chaumont changed hands many times till it became the property, through marriage, of the ducal family of Broglie, the descendants of her daughter. One of the intervening owners, the Comte d'Aramon, devoted a large portion of his extensive fortune to restoring the castle to its primitive condition so far as the lights of the fifties of the last century would allow, and to filling it with a collection of Renaissance furniture, a work which has been continued by his successors. The north and west wings to the left of the entrance are reserved for the owners, but visitors are admitted to the remaining wing on the right containing the rooms believed to have been occupied by Catharine and Diane, and furnished as they might have been in the days of those celebrated rivals. If the restoration has been carried to somewhat excessive lengths, and the objects collected are not all of unimpeachable authenticity, the efforts of the worthy Comte deserve our gratitude for the plausible reconstitution of a sixteenth century royal residence of the second rank. W. H. WARD.

ENGLISH LATE RENAISSANCE WOODWORK.

III.—GRINLING GIBBONS' CONTEMPORARIES AND SUCCESSORS.

IN the previous article, Grinling Gibbons was considered both as a designer and a sculptor in wood, and illustrations were given of carvings that we know, from documentary evidence, are directly attributable to him. Such examples are none too numerous. For St. Paul's and the Royal Palaces we have his bills; for Cassiobury and a few other places we have the testimony of his contemporaries. But that is all. There is scarcely any instance of the accounts he rendered for work done in country houses having survived.

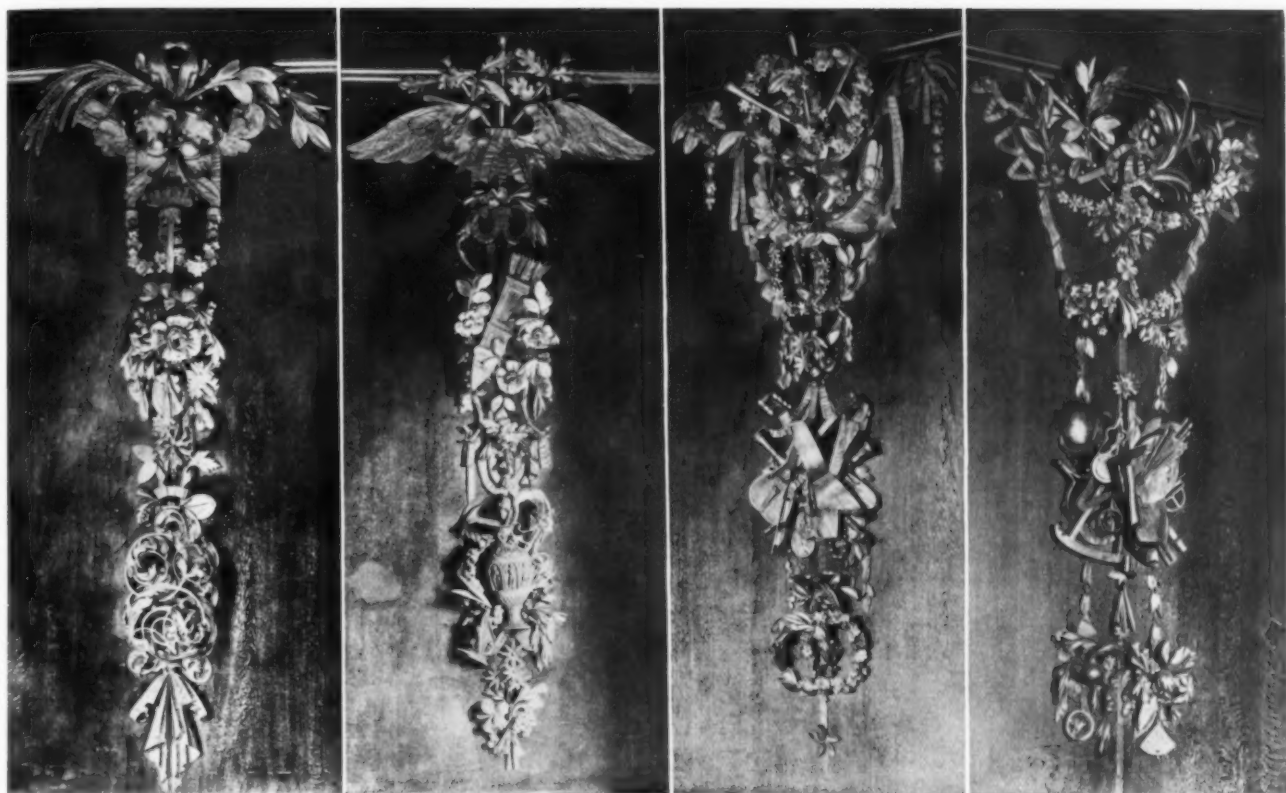
Such work will have been executed in London and sent down all ready to fix up, and this may be the reason why it finds no place in the accounts of local agents, who entered all payments for material and wages paid for on the spot. The evidence of the eye clearly establishes the whole decorative scheme of "the Large Chamber" at Petworth as one of the triumphs of the master. But the muniment room supplies no mention of him, whereas the name of Sedden appears in the agent's accounts among the many craftsmen of all trades who regularly drew wage. Was he, then, as Horace Walpole sets down, an assistant of Grinling Gibbons, and if so, why was he not paid by his



Copyright.

ALTAR PIECE, CHELSEA HOSPITAL CHAPEL, 1687.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

PANELS IN SALOON AT LYME HALL, CHESHIRE, 1726.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

employer? Still more difficult is it to accept Walpole's inclusion of Samuel Watson in the list of "assistants," or agree with him in attributing to Gibbons the carvings in the "Great Chamber" at Chatsworth. A contract between the Earl of Devonshire and Sam Watson and two other carvers for this particular job was signed in September, 1692, and a copy of it in Watson's handwriting survives.

The fact is that Gibbons so deeply impressed contemporary workers that all were influenced by him, and some, though unconnected with his workshop, followed his manner so closely, and with such finished technique, as to entrap authorities past and present. On the other hand, a great deal of the output of this period, though loosely attributed to him, shows by its design and execution that it had nothing to do with him, while, in a few cases, we have evidence that enables us to date and identify the work of contemporary craftsmen, such as William Emmett and Jonathan Maine.

William Emmett was nephew to Henry Phillips, the old Master Carver to the King, who, no doubt owing to his holding that position, was associated with Gibbons when he, at the age of twenty-nine, started work at Windsor, the accounts for the first two years being in their joint names. Though, according to Horace Walpole, Emmett succeeded his uncle in office, Gibbons never worked with him, and the only reference to him in the Windsor accounts is for a small item of

£6 11s. 6d. after Gibbons had finished there. That was under the surveyorship of Wren, who employed him more liberally elsewhere. It is Emmett and not Gibbons who enriched the wainscotings in the apartment in the Water Gallery at Hampton Court when, in 1690, it was prepared for the reception of Queen Mary, pending the completion of the main building. About five hundred pounds was paid him for this, and next he was employed carving stone on the outside of the new structure, a job which brought him in nearly one thousand pounds by 1694. Before that, Wren had used his talents at Chelsea Hospital, where we find, in the 1687 accounts, the following entries:

W^m Emmett, carver, for carving Worke in the
hall, councill chamber, in the chappell,
makeing flower potts & other worke ..

cxxijli iijjs iijjob
clxxvll iij vijob

W^m Morgan, carver, for the like worke ..

The illustration shows that the east end of the chapel is entirely

occupied by a great altar-piece designed by Wren, much in the manner of that at Trinity College, Oxford, and at Hampton Court. The carvers have done their work well, but it will be noticed that the elaborate wreathing and whorling in lime-wood present in the two examples wrought by Gibbons are not here attempted. All the carved parts, such as the Corinthian capitals, the swags of fruit and draperies in the frieze, the cherubs in the pediment, the "potts" containing fruit and flowers placed on



Copyright.

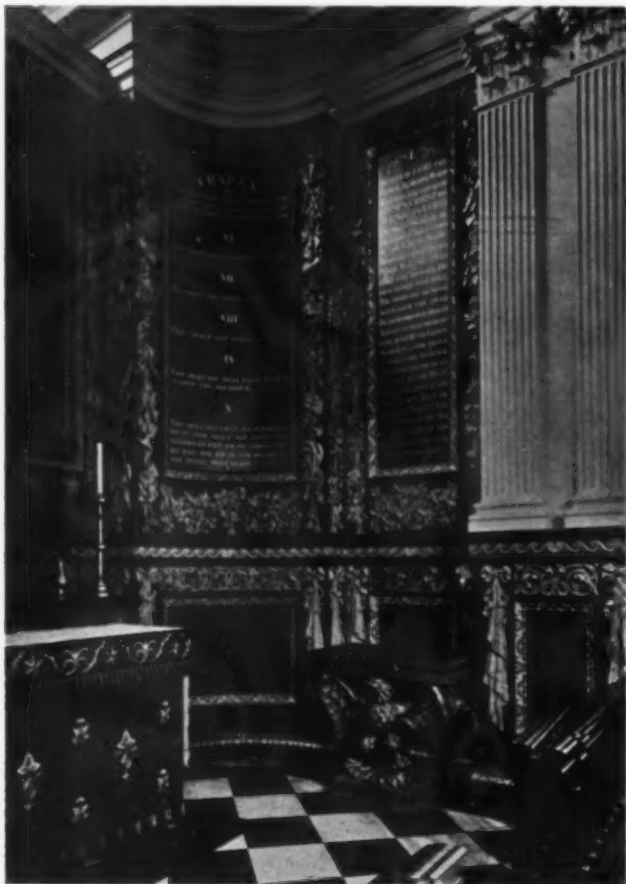
DETAILS OF CARVING, REDLAND CHAPEL, BRISTOL, 1740.

"C.L."



IN VESTRY, ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY: c. 1675.

the top of the parapet, are in oak, and will bear comparison with the like objects when carved in Gibbons' schemes in the same material. The altar gates are filled with pierced panels in soft



SOUTH SIDE OF APSE, REDLAND CHAPEL: c. 1710.

wood, and are particularly fine and successful examples of that then fashionable mode of treatment. In the "Council Chamber," now the Governor's drawing-room, the most notable feature is an elaborate overmantel composed of warlike trappings gathered together by a drapery swag with oak and bay-leaf sprigs interwoven—all in soft wood. Of the William Morgan, who here plays second fiddle to Emmett, nothing further is known beyond the fact that he became a liveryman of the Joiners' Company in 1673.

Jonathan Maine became a liveryman of the Joiners' Company in 1694, and he appears in the accounts of St. Paul's and of seven of the City churches as a wood-carver. His earliest appearance is in connection with St. Magdalen, Old Fish Street, in 1685-6, which is a dozen years before his signature in the St. Paul's acquittance book was appended to the following form:

Ap 22. 1698 Rec^d then the summe of fifty pounds in part of payment for carving in Morning Prey^r Chappell at St Paul's Church
I say rec^d Yon. Maine.

His last payment on account of this work was in August, 1699, but the morning chapel, situate at the north end of the west front, was to be balanced by a similar compartment facing it on the south side of the Cathedral. There was a considerable



IN BOARD-ROOM, OLD ADMIRALTY: c. 1740.

pause after the completion of the morning chapel before its fellow was fitted. It was then called the consistory; but in the nineteenth century it was stripped of its seats in order to be the home of the Wellington Monument. Since the latter's removal it has been newly equipped, dedicated to Saints Michael and George, and is the chapel of that order of knighthood. The cost of its original fittings appears in the 1706 volume of accounts, Charles Hobson charging £276 3s. 10d. for the joinery. Maine's department was more especially the screen, which divides it from the south aisle of the Cathedral and remains untouched. But there was also some carving about the desks and seats, as may be seen by the details of his bill, of which the following are the principal items that concern the screen:

		li : s : ob
For carving 4 Cherubims heads and foliage from y ^m in the scrole of the Hatches at 16 ^s each	3 . 4 . 0
For carving 8 round Composi Capitals at 6 ^{li} 15 ^s each	54 . 0 . 0
For carving 3 capitals 1/4 for the Pillasters at 6 ^{li} 15 ^s	23 . 12 . 0
For 66 10 th of Ornamt in y ^e freeze 8 1/2 ins deep at 5 ^s	16 . 10 . 0
For 72 10 th of straight Modillion Cornice 10 1/2 ins deep at 7 ^s	25 . 2 . 0
For carving 2 large Shields w th Cherubims heads & Drapery hanging from them at 24 ^{li} each	48 . 0 . 0
For turning & carving 4 vases upon y ^e 5 ^d Pedam ^t at 30 ^s each	6 . 0 . 0

All this was an exact replica of the work he had done for the morning chapel eight years before, and as that has never been altered, each item may be recognised in the illustration which is given. The only difference in the two accounts lies in the prices charged, the cost set against precisely similarly worded entries being rather higher in the case of the earlier than of the later job. Thus the shields, with their cherubim and drapery, are charged £30 and £24 each respectively in the two accounts, and the vases £2 in place of 30s. The total of the 1698 account reaches £263 1s. 1d., that of 1706 only £234 os. 3d. Had the value of carver's work gone down in the interval, or was it considered that less labour was needed for a replica?

In a third section of the Cathedral Jonathan Maine's hand may also be found. The library of Old St. Paul's was located over the east walk of the cloister. It dated from the time of Henry VI., and was spared when Protector Somerset pulled the rest of the cloister down to provide material for his new mansion in the Strand. But, either at the time of the Great Fire or before, it disappeared, together with nearly all its contents. When Archbishop Tenison, in the days when he was Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, had, under the guidance of Wren and Evelyn, established a theological library for his parish, there was already a talk of making one for the general benefit of London at the new Cathedral, and Wren so planned his west front as to accommodate it. He proposed to devote to it the space above the morning chapel as well as that above the consistory, but only the latter was fitted up for the purpose. Maine's most conspicuous share in this work was the carving of the brackets on which the gallery rests and which are well represented in the illustration. In his account he describes them as "32 Trusses or Cantalivers under the gallery, 3ft. 8ins. long and 3ft. 8ins. deep, and 7ins. thick with Leather worke cut through and a Leaf in the front and a drop hanging down with fruit and flowers etc. at 6li. 10s. each." The leaf and the fruits and flowers do not exhibit anything of the lightness and delicacy with which Grinling Gibbons represented these objects, but it must be remembered that the material is oak and not limewood. Taking this into consideration, Maine's carvings, both here and in the chapels below, show great mastery of handling. The modelling is quite perfect and the touch crisp and certain.

How much of the fine fittings in the City churches we owe to Maine cannot be ascertained. Wren's account-books for the rebuilding of the churches that were destroyed in the 1666 fire are kept at St. Paul's with those of the Cathedral itself, but have not anything like the same completeness. In fact, they do not deal with the fitting of the churches at all, but merely with the structure, and that only in condensed form, the object of the accounts being merely to show the manner of spending that portion of the tax on coals entering the metropolis which was assigned to this purpose. The fittings were nearly all of them gifts by wealthy citizens or bodies of parishioners, and their cost finds no place in Wren's official documents. Where, in these, Maine's name occurs, it is only for small sums connected with details of structure. But he may very well have been the author of some of the elaborate altar-pieces, organ-galleries, pulpits and font covers which were so generously bestowed. At All Hallows', Barking, the font cover of limewood must be the work of Grinling Gibbons, and so may also be the swags and drops in the same material which decorate the altar-pieces of a few of the Wren churches. But oak is the usual material of the carvings, and their manner, as a rule, has not quite the freedom and closeness to Nature that Gibbons affected. Take,

for instance, the vestry of St. Lawrence Jewry, of which an illustration is given. Excellent as the work is, it certainly does not reveal the touch of Gibbons, nor even does the designing show closer relationship to his known work than does many another example for which he was certainly not responsible. Round the mantel-piece and door-case the swags and drops of fruit and flower have not only the solidity of carving, but also the compactness of arrangement which we have seen distinguishing the work inspired by Inigo Jones, and even by Wren, before the advent of Gibbons upon the scene. There is much of this in both City churches and City halls. A room belonging to the Skinners fully illustrates this, and it will be noticed that the frieze above the doors bears a strong resemblance to that of Maine's morning chapel screen. Though few names have come down to us, there was evidently a large school of London wood-carvers at work at this period who were as much



Copyright

A ROOM AT SKINNERS' HALL: c. 1673.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

dominated by tradition as alive to the lighter and more realistic treatment that Gibbons had introduced.

For carvings more exactly in his manner and of which the authorship is known to be another's we have, curiously enough, to go to Belgium. Gibbons certainly called over to his assistance several Flemish sculptors and craftsmen. Of these, Quellin the younger was the most distinguished, and was associated with Gibbons for the marble work at Whitehall in James II.'s day. But Laurent van der Meulen of Mechlin fully caught the manner of his master in limewood, and, returning to his country after 1689, produced work of the same character there. Its whorled scrolls, its groups, wreaths and drops of fruit, flowers, hops, etc., at once mark its origin, and distinguish it readily from any other Flemish woodwork. It was an exotic which had no wide influence out of England, where, indeed, it ceased to be the vogue even before the death

of its originator. In the previous article, the woodwork in the Hampton Court Chapel was set down as the latest production of Gibbons of which the date is positively known. It belongs to the year 1710—that is, a decade before Gibbons' death. It is possible that he continued busy during that time, and, moreover, we occasionally come across fine examples of wood carving, almost undistinguishable from his, of which the date appears later than that of his death. But its halcyon days were over; its fullest and richest time being during the reign of William III., when not only did the St. Paul's Choir and the Hampton Court State apartments receive their ornamentation, but such great houses as Belton, Petworth and Chatsworth were being fitted. Under Queen Anne a somewhat more formal and decorative manner and a return to conventional scrollwork began to assert itself, and this grew stronger under George I., when, moreover, plaster very frequently displaced wood as the material for ornamented wall linings. That makes survivals all the more interesting, and such, in all probability, is the saloon at Lyme,



Copyright. SCREEN, MORNING CHAPEL, ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, 1697.

"C.L."

where the carvings in six of the great wainscoted panels are set down as the work of Gibbons. But the great alterations which gave a Palladian character to this Elizabethan house were not carried out by Leoni until about the year 1726. The general arrangement and decorative design of the saloon must most certainly be put down to him, and as the carvings so exactly fit the panels that they are an absolutely integral part of the decorative scheme it may be that they date from the years that immediately followed Gibbons' death. Yet we find here in the kissing amorini, the whorled scroll, the groups of musical implements, the hanging vase, the primrose wreaths, the bunches of natural flowers and fruits, including even nut-husks and split pea-pods, all the same ingredients that were most favoured by Gibbons. On the other hand it must be observed that the arrangement is rather more sparse and diffuse than is found

in known designs by Gibbons, who, moreover, did not place such work within panels, but framed the panels with it or set it as drops in wide stiles between them. But the Italian plasterers, so much employed by Gibbs, Leoni, Kent, Ripley and other early eighteenth century architects, did fill panels in this way, used instruments and implements combined with ribbons more freely than fruit and flowers wreathed together and designed in a rather diffuse manner. The conclusion, therefore, is not unnatural that the saloon panels at Lyme date from Leoni's time and were carried out by a follower of Grinling Gibbons well schooled in his manner, but open to newer influences. The same may be said of the carvings around the wind-gauge mantel-piece in the Board Room of the Old Admiralty, which was built by Ripley some fifteen years after Leoni had had Lyme in hand. Here nautical instruments and weapons predominate, but the Gibbons tradition is strong. At this same date, that is in 1740, one Mr. Cossin was building

a small but highly finished chapel at Redland on the outskirts of Bristol. The little chancel has a large framed picture over the altar-table, and on each side of it a pair of framed panels. All these are surrounded with very fine carvings in the manner of Gibbons, and the whole set up is in the manner of Queen Anne rather than in that of George II. The bunches of flower and foliage that occur below the frames between ribbon knots tied with a tasselled cord are delicately carved in soft wood left untouched as Gibbons would have had it. They are glued and bradded on to the oak background, as are likewise the numerous drops where flowers are less prominent, and, besides palm branches and bay sprigs, open books, folded sheets of paper, trumpets, torches, and in one instance a bishop's mitre, are to be found. About the picture and also on the dado there are cherubim heads. They certainly show a decline since the days of Gibbons. They are rather insipid and have nothing of the living expression and delicious and varied pose that we find in St. Paul's.

Such occasional survivals, by their very rarity, help to prove how individual was the style which we rightly—inevitably indeed—label with the name of its one great exponent. It came with him and went with him, and though it is well to be correct and make every effort to differentiate what did come from his chisel and workshop from contemporary work that did not, it is very excusable for the unlearned to apply indiscriminately the name of Grinling Gibbons to the whole of it.

H. AVRAY TIPPING.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

POSITION AND PROSPECTS OF THE CORN TRADE.

AT this period of the year it would be well for arable farmers to post themselves in all there is to be learned as to the world's grain crops in order to know which of their cereals should be sold at once and which will be likely to rise in value and pay for keeping. Since the establishment of the International Agricultural Institute we have acquired a more reliable source of information than the vague and sometimes wild reports which appear in the press and are often inspired by interested parties for speculative purposes, and some of these which appeared a few weeks ago are now shown to have been misleading. The International reports for September, though estimating the wheat crop of the world at a somewhat larger yield than did those for August, are not very alarming to British growers. They place the increase over last year at 4.1 per cent., and, after allowing for increased consumption, this estimate, while containing no cause for alarm, seems to preclude the hope of any substantial advance in values during the current cereal years, and therefore affords no encouragement

for holding wheat. With regard to barley, the accounts of the world's supplies are of little value to the British grower of malting barley, which crop is always chiefly marketed directly after harvest when there is the best demand, and very rarely pays for holding over to the spring. The general estimate is 1·2 per cent. over the yield of 1912, but there is no doubt a deficiency in England. The oat crop is a poor one, especially in Britain, and I have no hesitation in advising readers not to sell at the present low price of 18s. per quarter. The intrinsic value of oats always increases with keeping, but this year an advance of at least 5s. per quarter is quite "on the cards." In August the world's crop was placed at a reduction of over 10 per cent., but in September only 5·9 per cent. The estimate of the maize crop shows a falling off of about one hundred thousand quarters, which is not very cheering news for British pig-feeders.

GAME AND THE FARMER.

The discussion started by the speech of Mr. Lloyd George on the question of game-preserving is one of great interest quite apart from Party politics, especially to those who, like the writer, have seen so much of it. There was a time when it was a real and serious grievance, but that was before the passing of the Ground Game Act, a measure which has gone far to remove irritation

and to deprive the bitter feeling that formerly existed of its sting. Hares and rabbits in excessive numbers were often an intolerable nuisance to tenants; but in the course of a long experience in districts where pheasant coverts abounded, I have rarely heard complaints of damage from feathered game. Much ignorance prevails on the subject, and the ventilation it is now receiving may be productive of good. A Press representative asked me the other day if partridges were not the most destructive of all game! That was amusing, but much might be said in defence of the pheasant whose depredations are as nothing compared with those of the wood-pigeon. I have farmed land adjoining well-stocked woods growing root crops (including mangolds) close to them, but never saw any injury to them from pheasants worth mentioning. They were always too well fed inside the coverts to care about them. Pheasants are dainty feeders, and rarely attack ordinary root crops. They will, however, go a long way for an artichoke, to which they are extremely partial. That plant forms, indeed, a good decoy for those who wish to get a few of their neighbours' pheasants. I have heard fox-hunting farmers grumble at game-preserving on the ground that the keepers refuse to keep foxes; but I firmly believe that tenants as a body regard pheasants as the natural and legitimate source of pleasure to the landlord, with which they have no quarrel.

A. T. M.

LITERATURE.

A BOOK OF THE WEEK.

AN effect of the publication of a complete edition of the *Works of Tennyson*, with notes by the author (Macmillan), must be to call forth much new criticism of the greatest of the Victorian poets. Tennyson dominated the reign. His first volume came out in the days of William IV., and before the accession of the Queen, or immediately after it, he had published a number of poems that speedily were recognised as the most perfect of their day. "The May Queen" established him in the hearts of the people, and "The Lotus Eaters," "The Palace of Art," "Locksley Hall" and the "Mort d'Arthur" appealed to the most fastidious. He did not make a fortune all at once, suffered, indeed, from an "eternal lack of pence," but his friends knew that a poet had come to town; and among them were numbered those who should know, men like Carlyle, Thackeray and Dickens, Leigh Hunt and W. E. Gladstone. After the first fault-finding of "crusty Christopher" and his like, no one questioned his supremacy and his fame grew with the years. Tennyson lived long enough to find himself become a classic. He was not unconscious of the fact, and lived in a kind of Royal seclusion, avoiding with great skill the interviews of journalists, Americans and other representatives of the common herd. Finally, at a ripe old age, he died and was buried, with pageantry and splendour, the dirges sung being his own songs, "Sunset and Evening Star," and

When the dumb hour clothed with black
Brings the dreams about my bed,

his generation saw him placed securely, as they thought, in his appropriate niche in the Temple of Fame. But it is the way of the young to question the decisions of the old, and the budding critics of the reign of Edward VII. and George V. began to mutter that their fathers had taken too much for granted. The Victorian giants were sharply assailed. Victorian art and Victorian sentiment were ridiculed. It was not possible for Tennyson to escape. He was acknowledged the artist of his day, and he as no other had given expression to Victorian sentiment.

Much that his contemporaries thought most of is now but food for critical powder. Keen critic of his own work, as his emendations proved him to have been, he never dreamt that the bulk of his pathos was only for the time, and that a remnant only is for all time. "He thought," writes his son, "that 'Merlin and the Gleam' would probably be enough of biography for those friends who urged him to write about himself." In it he indicates a high opinion of the epic of Arthur and his knights:

Then, with a melody
Stranger and statelier
Led me at length
To the city and palace
Of Arthur the king.

Modern opinion does not endorse this view, a moralised Mallory is not to the taste of the day. Arthur, who pardons "as God pardons," might be stainless to the eyes of the middle nineteenth century; to us he is only a survival from that era of self-righteous

husbands and fathers. His treatment of Tristram and Isolde is even worse:

But while he bowed to kiss the jewelled throat
Out of the dark, just as the lips had touched,
Behind him rose a shadow and a shriek
"Mark's way," said Mark, and clove him through the brain.

Did anything ever reek more of the middle of the nineteenth century?

In the Tennysonian songs, once the joy of those who thought themselves the elect, the difference between those of universal appeal to those coloured with the peculiar sentimentality of an age is startlingly apparent. What a vogue "Home they brought her warrior dead" had once, and how thin it now appears! It is mentioned with "As thro' the land at even we went," "Tears, idle tears," "The splendour falls on castle walls" and "Ask me no more" as having "especially moved the great heart of the people." Posterity has endorsed the verdict in the case of two only, "Tears, idle tears," and "Ask me no more."

Ah, sad and strange as in dark summer dawns
The earliest pipe of half-awakened birds
To dying ears, when unto dying eyes
The casement slowly grows a glimmering square;
So sad, so strange, the days that are no more.

The stuff of which that comes is immortal. Often he but voices the sentiment of Victorian England, here he is the interpreter of humanity. Very touching is it to find incorporated with the notes the impulsive and generous language applied to the Tennysonian drama by men like Robert Browning, Henry Irving and Professor Bryce. They are but faint Shakespearian echoes which have not stood the test of time—of a few years even. The immortal poet is heard only in an occasional song.

But Tennyson is a great enough figure to bear all this criticism. Those who urge the objections against him most keenly are the young poets of to-day, who imagine that their lisps are new and strange to the world. But if we contrast the youth which is displayed in the early poetry of Tennyson with the youth which finds expression among the poetasters of the present moment, it will not be difficult to understand why among the latter there is not a single great poet, or one who gives promise of becoming great. Their impressionism begins and ends with the senses. They sing the joys of life, love and good eating, music and art, and there they end. Tennyson's youth sublime was of a very different kind. He, with Hallam and the brilliant little company to which they belonged dreamed and nursed ambitions, followed out lines of thought, studied the scheme of the Universe in a large and liberal way of which we cannot find a trace among the elegant and critical versifiers who are before the public just now. There is nothing they do that Tennyson could not have done better. Even Masfield's stories in verse are worked out from his model. But beyond all that the very spirit and eyes of youth gaze out of such a poem as "Locksley Hall," which Froude tells us was the anthem and marching song of the young men of his generation. We all know its faults. But they are the faults of a noble and generous youth, just as the hope and stimulation

and splendour of the verse are young also; and on this the foundation of all his career was laid. He kept on learning until the last, and some of the verses which he wrote as an octogenarian are as sure as anything can be of an abiding place in English literature.

INDIAN POLO.

The Polo Calendar of The Indian Polo Association, 1912-1913.

WE have to thank the hon. secretary of the Indian Polo Association for a copy of the *Polo Calendar*, published under the authority of the Indian Polo Association. It is a most excellent publication, and is not only a polo calendar, but a useful and practical hand-book to the game of polo. The *Polo Calendar* embodies the results of the debates and consultations of the most experienced polo players in India. We may say at once that this little volume is no less interesting and instructive for English and American than Indian polo players, and it may be taken as a useful model should the Hurlingham Committee decide to publish, as is much to be desired, an official calendar. Indian polo has always been closely followed in *COUNTRY LIFE*, and in 1912 challenge cups, presented by the proprietors, were played for at Quetta, Bangalore, Secunderabad, Poona, Meerut, Lucknow, Allahabad and Lahore. These cups are played under the Indian Polo Association handicap. The divisional ties are played off in the same way as those of the Inter-Regimental and County Cups in England, at convenient centres, and the semi-finals and finals at the chief centres. In all thirty-four teams competed, and the entry, besides being a large one, was thoroughly representative of Indian polo. Readers will find the complete record of this interesting and novel series of tournaments played under the polo handicap which was first seriously advocated in "Polo Past and Present," at page 196 of the Calendar. Besides the contents mentioned above the Indian rules of polo, those for measuring ponies and the names of players handicapped, and, indeed, every information about the game in India, will be found. We should like also to draw attention, considering that the question of umpires and their appointment is exercising the minds of polo players in England, to the provision that all umpires officiating at tournaments under Indian Polo Association rules must have the permission of the committee of the Indian Polo Association. This seems exactly to meet our difficulties, and it is obviously desirable that umpires should be approved by the Hurlingham committee. This little book is full of interesting reading for all polo players, and deserves a wide circulation among the members of English polo clubs.

THE CRICKETER AND THE BALL.

The Book of the Ball, by A. E. Crawley. (Methuen.)

WHEN a man writes a treatise about ball games and describes it on the very outside paper wrapping as "a thesis on the assumption that cricketers would be saved much time and trouble if the principles on which the movement of the ball depends were more generally known," it may be understood that the reading of that treatise is not exactly of the kind that is called light. It does not sound like an easy game. He who runs may read, but he will not understand; it requires a good sit-down study for its mastery. And is it worth while?—that is the question. We may say at once that we believe it is. Even a casual reading of the book conveys the impression that the writer always knows what he means, and that is much. That we should always catch his meaning on such a perusal would be too much to expect. What we should rather like to see is a smaller edition of this book, simplified, for the use of schools. After all, it is at school, as a rule, that our cricketers are made, especially our bowlers, to whom Mr. Crawley makes his chief appeal. If the treatise were thus shortened and simplified and the illustrations kept which show how the ball is to be held and how delivered in order to put on the various breaks, we believe that it might help very much in the training of many a bowler. It may do so, and it will do so, now; but its appeal would be wider if it were not so long and if so many other ball games besides cricket were not included in it. As it is it is an instructive and interesting book for those who have the leisure to master it. It is pleasantly illustrated with pictures of players engaged in strokes of

the various games, but they do not in a majority of cases elucidate the text in any way. With one remark of the writer we hardly find ourselves in agreement. "A ball," he writes, "with horizontal spin (slice at golf, overhand cut service at lawn tennis are nearly so) swerves, but on touching ground does not break. It merely continues the direction it had before." Is that truly the case with the sliced golf ball? The rubber-core does not, it is true, show the effect of slice as notably as the old gutta-percha ball, but still, on touching ground, the sliced ball does not seem to us merely to "continue the direction." It seems rather to increase its bend and to dart even farther to the right of the intended line after touching ground than in its flight. But the book is very thorough. The writer has grasped his subject in all its bearings, and certainly it is a book that every cricketing coach of boys should study.

THE END OF THE CUBBING SEASON.

A WORD UPON METHODS.

IN a few days we shall be at the beginning of another regular hunting season. Silk and scarlet in the way of hat and coat will have ousted the "any old thing" which has so far taken the place of riding costume, cubs will cease to be cubs and become foxes, and all by merely changing the card in our calendar. In some countries this change will all be in favour of the erstwhile cub, which may have been having an exceedingly uncomfortable time indeed, and will now at least have a chance to "put his best leg foremost" and show a clean pair of heels to his pursuers.

There are more ways than one of doing most things, and with the same object in view different men will employ very different methods. In cub-hunting we may take it that, generally speaking, its object is in the first place to instruct



A BLIND COUNTRY.

young hounds, but there are other by-products, you might call them, of the main object which are of considerable importance themselves. In all countries it is the first really reliable chance which offers of finding out how different parts of the country are supplied with foxes, as information received throughout the summer may not always be reliable; and, in fact, it is not uncommon to find that those districts where most is heard of depredations by foxes and of their superabundance, are like the proverb of the "empty vessel making the most noise." In another part of the country the superabundance may be a reality, and a reduction of the number be for the benefit of all. One sometimes hears a grumble during the season of a fox having been killed in an "unsporting" way, and blame thrown on the Master or officials of a particular hunt. No doubt this is sometimes merited, as some people have an insatiable thirst for "blood"; but without knowing all the circumstances, the outsider should hold his judgment, as there are politics of hunting as well as of government, and it may sometimes happen that to dig out and kill a fox in a certain place may be called for by circumstances known only to the inner circle or "cabinet" of the hunt, and that kill may indirectly save the lives of others. To return, however, to the subject of my title, some Masters in the cubbing season seem to have such an almost endless desire for blood that the observer might be pardoned in suspecting their having an eye to the total of kills as published at the end of the season. That this total is usually given without distinction between cubbing and the regular season seems a mistake, as whatever use the killing of cubs may be, in many hunts it is a most inglorious business.

Mobbing a fox in the season would be considered a crime, but before November 1st such passes without comment, and in many countries lucky indeed is the cub of a brave heart which, when he has decided to boldly take the open, does not find himself faced by the crack of a whip wielded by a hunt servant stationed for this purpose some fifty yards from the covert. As I have said, methods differ, and it would be presumption of a mere layman of the chase to dogmatically state what is the right way or wrong in face of the fact that "holding up" foxes is believed in and practised by many of the most eminent masters and huntsmen. I have looked through Beekford in vain for an opinion upon this point. He advocates well blooded young hounds, and even speaks of turning out bag foxes before them, but, so



A TIRED CUB.



THE RIGHT SORT.



TALLY-HO BACK!

far as I can find, says nothing about holding up cubs in a covert what one might call by force. Beckford does refer to a point in cubbing, however, which seems most important. He says: "By disturbing the large coverts early in the year, foxes will be shy of them in the season, and show

you better chases." This is a point which, I think, might be enlarged upon, and brings one to another reason for cub-hunting besides teaching hounds, and that is teaching young foxes. First impressions go for a great deal with hounds, horses or human beings, and why not with foxes? G.



HOLDING THEM UP.

WILD COUNTRY LIFE.

THE MIGRATION OF BIRDS.

AT this time of the year many sportsmen are eagerly looking out for the first woodcock of the season, and gunners on our coasts are expecting the geese and ducks of various kinds, some of which have already arrived, while others will follow at their proper times. But there is no need to carry a gun in order to find a source of unending interest throughout the winter in watching the movements of birds both inland and along our shores. While the last of the summer visitors are leaving us the fieldfares and redwings are beginning to arrive from the North, and countless thousands of wildfowl are returning from their Arctic breeding-places. It must not be supposed, however, that there are only two kinds of migrating birds, namely, those that come here from the South to breed in the summer and those that come from the North to pass the winter months. There are very widespread movements among those birds that we are accustomed to consider permanent residents. To mention only a few common instances, many of our thrushes leave us in the autumn to be replaced by thrushes from the North; the great flocks of starlings that we see at this season are increased by birds from overseas, and rooks and jackdaws come in their thousands from Northern Europe and Scandinavia. Robins return from the woods to the neighbourhood of houses, and a Continental race of robins visits the East Coast every autumn. It is not possible for many people to spend years on Heligoland, like Herr Gätke, or months on Fair Island, like Mr. Eagle Clarke, but there are hundreds of people living in this country who have good opportunities of watching these movements and whose observations, if they would record them, would add something to our knowledge of the migration of birds. The subject is a fascinating one, not the less so because many theories have been advanced to explain it and all have been found wanting. W.

NOTES FROM THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

A curious creature, known as the spotted or sooty amphispæna (*Amphispæna fuliginosa*), has just arrived at the Zoological Gardens. Although very worm-like or snake-like in appearance, yet this reptile is in reality a limbless lizard, and belongs to a group that, with the exception of one species, namely, the handed amphispæna (*Chirotes caniculatus*), which still retains rudimentary fore limbs, have lost all external traces of them. They live entirely underground, and only come forth on rare occasions during the night time. They have the peculiar power of being able to move in either a forward or backward direction at will, and this feature is responsible for the belief held by the natives of their habitat, that they are possessed of two heads. Their method of progress along the ground is very peculiar, for, unlike other limbless reptiles, they move much in the manner that a worm does instead of by lateral undulations.



W. S. Berridge.

SPOTTED AMPHISPÆNA.

Copyright.

The spotted amphispæna is found in Tropical America and the West Indies, and grows to a length of about eighteen inches. The general colour is of a pale buff, while a number of blackish markings are irregularly distributed over the body. They are said to take up their abode in the underground chambers of the saüba ants, and, according to the report of the naturalist, Bates, the natives say that the ants treat them with great affection, and that if one is removed from a nest, the saübas will immediately desert their home. Unfortunately, this brotherly feeling seems to be a somewhat one-sided affair, for the amphispæna is believed to feed upon the ants. The natives erroneously consider the species as being poisonous. The thanks of the society are due to Mr. R. Pearce Page, F.Z.S., for the presentation of a collection

of Paradise-fish (*Macropodus opercularis*). These fish are inhabitants of China and Cochin China, and are now recognised as being domestic varieties, although the normal type from which they have been derived is still unknown. They are essentially fish for the aquarium, being more hardy than the gold fish, and even breeding in a tank of quite small dimensions. Furthermore, these fish, unlike many others, do better if placed in a strong light, for under such conditions they assume the most brilliant tints, the body becoming striped with alternate gold and red bands, whereas if kept in a dark corner or in dirty water they are merely brown in colour. B.



W. S. Berridge. PARADISE FISH. Copyright.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

OTTERS AND SMALL FRY.

SIR,—Until lately I had been under the impression that otters confined their depredations to the larger fish of our rivers, and would disdain to capture and eat any fish under half a pound in weight. Hence I was somewhat surprised to hear the experience of a water-bailiff on the river here, who watched an otter catching and eating salmon and sea-trout parr. The bailiff was seated by the river side when his attention was attracted by the sight of an otter emerging out of the water on to a rock at the edge of a shallow pool. It was a summer evening, the light was good and the otter not many yards from the observer, who distinctly noticed the small size of the fish in the animal's mouth. On reaching the rock the otter held the fish crosswise in his mouth, the tail of the fish protruding on one side and the head on the other. With a bite he severed the head and tail, which fell on the rock, and, swallowing the remainder, promptly dived in again, reappearing in the course of a minute or two with another smolt. The process was repeated uninterruptedly for about half-an-hour, when the bailiff moved on to his rounds and disturbed the fishing. Before he left the spot the bailiff examined the rock which had formed the otter's dinner table, and found it littered with the heads and tails of smolts and little trout.—F. J. I.

DO SQUIRRELS ROB BIRDS' NESTS.

SIR,—As a constant admirer and protector of squirrels, I have been frequently called upon to defend them from various charges imputing to them certain mischievous practices. Prominent among these are the statements that they damage young shrubs by biting off the leaders, and that they systematically rob birds' nests, eating both eggs and young birds. With regard to the first of these accusations, I think there can be no doubt that they are sometimes guilty of nibbling off the leaders of shrubs, but I question whether the damage done in this way is ever very serious. It is in reply to the second accusation that I should be much obliged to any of your readers who can supply from personal observation any information substantiating the statement that squirrels have been actually seen robbing birds' nests and eating either the eggs or the young birds.—LANCASHIRE.

GOLDCREST CAUGHT IN SPIDERS'-WEB.

SIR,—I think that the following experience may be found worthy of insertion in your natural history section. My old friend, the late Thomas Altham, a Lancashire rustic naturalist of conspicuous ability, noticed one day on entering an outhouse of his a violent commotion among the matted cobwebs hanging from a beam of the roof. A closer inspection revealed the strange fact that a goldcrest had become so completely entangled in the dense mass of webs that it was bound helplessly by wings and feet and was quite unable to extricate itself as it hung head downwards from the beam. The bird was, of course, quite uninjured, and flew away at once on being released. The mention of my worthy old friend, Altham, or "Owd Tummus" as he was affectionately styled by local naturalists, suggests another observation of his which ornithologists will recognise as stranger than it might appear to the ordinary observer. The spectacle of a hawk mobbed by swallows is familiar enough to the country observer. The passive bearing of the hawk under the pert attacks of his puny aggressors is rightly ascribed to his consciousness of the futility of any attempt on his part to catch his agile persecutors who possess powers of flight so superior to his own. Yet "Owd Tummus" once actually saw a mobbed sparrow-hawk turn on a pursuing swallow, snap him up and sit down to a meal off his victim in full sight of his companions, who swooped shrieking about him. That hawk must have thoroughly enjoyed his meal, or, as "Owd Tummus" put it, "I reckon you sparrow-wor reet fain o' his meal." He always spoke of them as "sparroks," the good old English "sparhawk" or "sparhawk" of Chaucer, for your Lancashire country folk are happily doggedly conservative in retaining their dialect, which is peculiarly rich in quaint old English words and expressions.—BLACKBURN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON THE SEAL ROCK IN ST. BRIDE'S BAY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I do not know if the enclosed photograph may be of interest to your readers. It is one I took and enlarged of a seal basking on a rock in St. Bride's Bay, Pembrokeshire. The rock is about three miles from the shore, and as two or three seals may often be seen on it, it is called locally the "Seal Rock." The seals seem to float themselves on just as the tide is leaving the rock, and remain there, unless disturbed, until the tide comes in again. This one appeared to be worried by flies, and was constantly using his flapper, apparently to brush them away.—G.

A LATE BROOD OF WILD DUCK.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—To-day I saw on my lake a wild duck with fourteen young ones just hatched. Is not this very late? I conclude it is on account of the very open weather we are having. My first this year were hatched the latter part of February, and I have had several bring off a second hatch this year.—B. LE NEVE FOSTER.

[This is undoubtedly an exceptionally late brood of wild duck. It is possible that the warm weather of September may account for it. We saw a nest with fresh eggs of the corn bunting on September 21st, and newly hatched young of the house martin on October 1st.—ED.]

APPLES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—The apple has always been considered a mystical fruit, because it is supposed to be the fruit referred to in the Bible. In England it has always been honoured. King Harold, before the Battle of Senlac, pitched his camp by an apple tree, in the firm belief that it would give him victory in the ensuing contest. The following clause appears in the Saxon Coronation Service: "May the Almighty bless thee with the blessing of heaven above, and the mountains and the valleys, with the blessings of the deep below, with the blessing of grapes and apples." In olden days the farmer and his household used on Christmas Eve to sprinkle the apple trees with cider, singing as they danced round them the following stanza:

Here's to thee, old apple tree,
Whence thou may'st bud and whence thou may'st blow;
And whence thou may'st bear apples enow.
Hats full, caps full,
Bushel, bushel, sacks full,
And my pockets full, too.
Huzza!

Tradition says that rain on St. Swithin's Day benefits the apples, or, as village folk say, "christens them." Apples, too, play a great part in the various ceremonies connected with All Hallow E'en, such as brushing the hair at midnight before a glass while eating an apple till the future partner's face is reflected in the mirror; the fishing for apples in a tub of water, and the initial apple-peeling takes the form of when tossed over the shoulder. In Sicily, when a man is in love with a girl he presents her with an apple. In South Italy it was customary to always have apples at a wedding breakfast, when each guest took one, scooped out a hollow with a knife and put in it a silver coin. All these apples were given to the bride. Lastly, in mythology, apples figure greatly. Juno presented

Jupiter with golden apples on their wedding day. Iduna had charge of the apples which, when eaten, made the gods young again.—G. WELBURN.

THE WOOD-PIGEON.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—It is according to its nature and habits that the wood-pigeon is a very



BASKING IN THE SUN.

destructive creature, yet the bird has some redeeming features, perhaps more than its friends and enemies allow. It is a handsome bird, almost as fine as its cousin, the magpie, and there are many country folk to whom it is a pleasing addition to the sights of the woods. In fact, to see a couple of the birds side by side billing and cooing in mating-time is considered to be lucky. At this season the sound of the billing and cooing is put into speech by using the birds' language, this is the proposal to make a nest:

Coo, coo, coo-o-o-o;
Make a nest, make a nest;
Two sticks across,
A little bit o' moss.
Coo, coo, coo-o-o-o.

This in regard to the flimsy and ungainly home which the pair make, of which it is said, "for bits an' sticks th' pigeon beats th' rook hollow." Not a few of the old country folk find pleasure in the pigeon's love sounds and delight in the pair's courtship. A wood-pigeon is considered harmful as food unless it is well cooked, and though it is considered good as pie, a farming man by no means "hankers after it."—T. R.

WIREWORM AND BRACKEN.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent Mr. G. E. Baker, I think the abundance or scarcity of wireworm depends mostly on atmospheric conditions, and particularly on the character of the preceding winter. Near me bracken gets on to the land very largely in the shape of manure, but the quantity of wireworm varies exactly as it does in other parts of the kingdom. This year it has been a terrible pest, both where bracken is used as manure and where it is not used.—A. P.

PIKE FISHING TO ORDER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—A little time ago I saw in your "Correspondence" columns a good photograph of a pike being landed. The correspondent was particular to emphasise that it was taken without the fisherman's knowledge. I venture to submit that the accompanying photograph needed an even greater degree of good fortune, for in this case my brother and I went out with the express intention of taking pike-fishing photographs. Who does not know the cussedness of things in general and of fish in particular? Yet in this instance my brother cast the spinner, and the very first time hooked what proved to be a fine pike of just over twelve pounds. This seems like a good specimen of the notorious "fisherman's yarn," but the exception proves the rule. In the photograph the fish's head will be seen just out of water and the spinner in the corner of its mouth.—G. F. I. SCHWERDT.

SQUIRRELS

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Perhaps the enclosed photograph may interest some of your readers. This young friend from abroad was in the habit of accompanying me every morning when I fed the numerous pets that have their home in the garden, and although, as a rule, the squirrels are rather shy with strangers, they soon grew accustomed to her, and in a few days I got them to take the nuts from her hand and even to climb up her skirt and take them out of the bag. On my return home I had only to open the window and call, and four or five came bounding along over the lawn and were climbing up the bamboo ladder



A TWELVE-POUNDER ON THE LINE.



WILD SQUIRRELS AND THE VISITOR.

"THE WHITE-MANED SEROW."

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—In connection with a note of mine on the "White-maned Serow," which you recently published, the enclosed photograph may prove of interest. I hear from China that a sportsman who undertook a somewhat similar trip to that on which I accompanied Mr. Fenwick Owen, had all his rifles, etc., confiscated by the rebels at Chung-Keng, though no trouble was experienced while actually on the shooting-grounds. I have not yet heard what species were secured or whether a serow was included in the bag. Securing so fine a trophy as Mr. Fenwick Owen's specimen is, at any time, a matter of great uncertainty.—H. FRANK WALLACE.



"CARRYING HIM IN."

which I made for them to get on to the window-sill for their breakfast. I fear that in my absence they must have been kept on short commons, as two thousand crocuses which my gardener had planted two days before my return had entirely disappeared. The little rascals had evidently watched his operations from the big beech tree above, and then descended and excavated every bulb and carried off the booty for their winter store. Have any of your readers had a similar experience to record?—SIGISMUND GOETZE.

QUAILS IN ENGLAND.

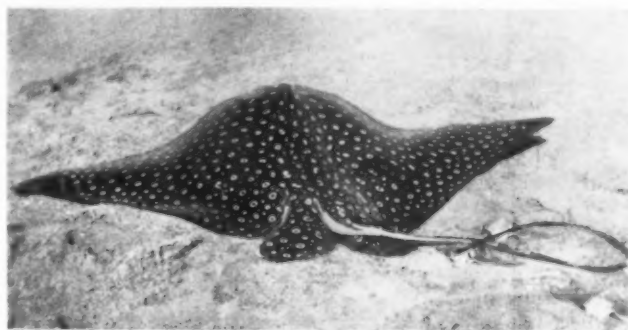
[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I read with interest the article signed by "H. A. B." in a recent issue on the subject of "Quails in England," and as he writes for information as to any shot by your readers, I thought he would like to know that in January, 1910, I shot a female quail on the eastern slopes of Portsdown Hill, near the village of Bournemouth, in South Hants. I have never seen or heard of any others in the neighbourhood. My friends who were with me at the time discussed the reason for a solitary bird of this kind being in the neighbourhood, and the opinion was expressed that it might have escaped from captivity, as it is understood that these birds are brought to England in crates for culinary purposes. Whether this is so or not, I do not know, but the bird in question bore no trace of confinement, as its plumage was in excellent condition. The bird now forms part of my collection. The time of year I shot it was considered to bear out the view expressed.—T. A. BRAMSDON.

THE EAGLE-RAY AND ITS YOUNG.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—On a previous occasion attention was called to the success with which Mr. Russell Coles utilises the cruises on his yacht off the coast of North Carolina for securing rare fishes and making observations on their habits. Mr. Coles is one of the leading amateur fishermen, and attracted widespread attention a few years ago when he landed with rod and reel a twelve hundred pound shark, a feat which has never been equalled. Among his latest successes, his observations on the eagle-ray (*Etobatis narinari*) are worthy of note. This gigantic fish is well known for its habit of leaping out of the water with outspread pectoral fins and



FEMALE EAGLE-RAY, DORSAL ASPECT.



SAME SPECIMEN, VENTRAL ASPECT, YOUNG JUST BORN.

its viviparous reproduction. But little has ever been published on its gestation. In 1910 Mr. Coles recorded having seen a ray of this species giving birth to four young. These measure about a foot in width, and agree with the adult in the wing-like pectoral fins and the long, whip-like tail. In the summer of 1912 Mr. Coles captured five females and three males, the largest female measuring seven feet seven inches across the body. The specimen here represented measures seven feet two inches. It was seized after the seine net had been dragged into shallow water, into which Mr. Coles jumped in order to close the vent of the fish, so as to prevent the possible escape of the young. It was wounded in order to lessen its resistance, and the captor and the fish were dragged together in the seine to the beach. The ray then gave birth to four young at intervals of a few seconds. They were alive, each rolled up lengthwise; they quickly unfolded, but died in a few minutes. Although not quite mature, these young had already nearly entirely absorbed the yolk-sac.—G. A. BOULENGER.

"A MIXED BAG."

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Seeing your note, "A Mixed Bag," on page 45* of your issue of October 18th, made me look through my game book, kept for the past eight years. I find the following: Grouse, 38; black-game, 2; partridges, 3; pheasants, 23; woodcock, 2; snipe, 4; hares, 2; rabbits, 8; pigeons, 3; various, 2; total, 87; six guns, October 28th, 1907. The various are not detailed, but are neither plover nor roe-deer, both of which can be shot here. This county (Wigtownshire) is known for its mixed "bags," and I find frequent entries in my book of eight and even nine varieties in a day. I hope this may interest you.—M. F. HAMILTON.

FOREST TREES FOR LANDSCAPE PLANTING.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I should be extremely grateful if any of your readers would be kind enough to give me a little information on the subject of tree-planting. I wish to plant a few forest trees which shall be neither foreign to the soil nor yet familiar to the eye in every landscape. I am not in favour of conifers, but I have in mind one or two, such as the Norway maple service trees, white beams, wayfaring and strawberry kinds, all of which, I believe, are hardy and would thrive on a sandy loam soil (lacking lime, I fear) facing west. The site is a fairly high and exposed field at Headley, Hants, near Hindhead and Churt. The least bit of practical advice as to the wisest choice to make would be invaluable to me. I would prefer a quick-growing species.—LAURENCE B. FARADAY.

[Any of the following trees may be planted in the position described: *Betula Maximowiczii* (Japanese birch), *Acer macrophyllum* and *A. darycarpum* (North American maple), *A. platanoides* (Norway maple), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tulip tree), *Pyrus aucuparia* (mountain ash), *pyrus aria* (white beam),

Quercus conferta, and *Juglans nigra* (American walnut). All grow fairly rapidly after they become established, and they may be expected to form large trees. —Ed.]

THE MERRY-THOUGHT.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—I note in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE a letter from a gentleman who noticed in carving fowls at table in the Lake District that they have no "merry-thoughts." I have several times wondered at a similar omission in very fine, well fed ducks which we have been getting this year from a poulterer in the North Lonsdale district of Lancashire. Those purchased locally are quite normal in this respect. A dalesman of whom I asked the reason suggested that perhaps the abnormal birds had no sense of humour!—MARY C. FAIR, Eskdale, Cumberland.

AN EXTRA-ORDINARY SILVER SPRUCE.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a silver spruce growing on the Rosemount Estate, Montrose. It is known locally as "The Three Brothers."



THE THREE BROTHERS.

The division of the trunk occurs at a height of about three feet from the ground; the estimated height of the tree is eighty feet.—D. GRANT.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR TRAPPING MOLES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Your correspondent mentions having seen someone engaged in the "sport" of shooting moles. Two winters ago my brother and I shot some hundreds, but we invariably stood right over the mole-hill with the gun pointing straight down, ready to pull the trigger the moment the heap began to move. I found that the best time to catch them at work was from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., especially if there was any frost on the ground, when the fresh heaps were easily distinguished at a distance. Sometimes not a single pellet touched the mole, the shock alone being sufficient to kill it. I skinned all the moles myself, and also tanned the skins with very little trouble, making them up into a hat and stole, which only cost me six shillings and sixpence, not including cartridges.—MARY GRAY.

ANCIENT OAKS.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—In the face of the recent correspondence regarding certain ancient oaks, I cannot refrain from acting as champion in the cause of a veritable Goliath of his kind—in point of size if not of fame—which we came across by chance in a somewhat secluded Cotswold vale. Little information was forthcoming on the part of the natives of the district regarding this monster tree, yet I think it fully deserves "honourable mention" in the ranks of the fine old veterans alluded to in former articles. With this purpose in view I am sending a photograph as an illustration of the enormous girth of the trunk, with a short description of the tree in general. The trunk at its base measures just over thirty feet in circumference and rises perpendicularly—twelve feet of smooth, hard bark. Above this four or five great boughs stretch outwards and upwards, bearing a wealth of foliage singularly dense and evenly distributed, the whole reaching to a height of fully sixty feet; surely a most unusual "flight" for a member of such a solid and stately tribe! Could it express an opinion on the subject, maybe we should find this prodigy of Mother Earth well content to remain in comparative obscurity the while its lesser brethren enjoy a greater notoriety and, doubtless, a heavier weight of centuries, if local tradition is to be trusted. It would be interesting to learn whether any of your readers happen to have lighted upon this particular tree. It stands in the middle of a field adjoining the Edge Farm, a short distance north from Painswick, Gloucestershire.—M. E. HODGES.



A GOLIATH OF THE COTSWOLDS.

A TAME OTTER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—It might be of some interest to readers of COUNTRY LIFE to see the enclosed photographs of my tame otter, Billy by name. The mother was killed during a hunt, when her cubs were only three weeks old, and Billy was the only one of the three that survived. He was given to me by the Master for a pet, and as such he has few, if any, equals. When I first had him I had to feed him by giving him milk from a baby's bottle. He never seemed in the least frightened of me, and was easy to manage from the beginning; and as he grew older

he became as affectionate and companionable as a dog, following me about and enjoying a game with a ball more like a fox-terrier than anyone would think possible of an otter. He was not in the least afraid of my dog (in fact, the dog seemed distinctly scared of him!), and although I constantly let him wander about the garden he never once tried to wander away. Personally, I think that an otter, as a companion, is hard to beat.—E. M. PRYCE-JENKIN.



BILLY.

RACING NOTES.



W. A. Rouch.

THE START FOR THE MIDDLE PARK PLATE.

Copyright.

WHY anybody should have backed Fiz Yama to win the Cesarewitch I do not profess to know, for if there was one thing clear on recent form it was that Grave Greek, at all events, would beat him. In the Newbury Autumn Cup—two miles and a furlong—Grave Greek met Fiz Yama on exactly the same terms as in the Cesarewitch, and beat him by a length and a half—not only beat him, but beat him by staying the longest. In the Nottingham Handicap—two miles—they met once more on exactly the same terms, and again Grave Greek proved himself the better of the two, but this time by many lengths. Therefore—if there is any “therefore” in public form—it seemed that Grave Greek must beat Fiz Yama in the Cesarewitch. That, at all events, seems to have been a fairly general opinion, for Grave Greek was backed, well backed, at 100—8, while 50—1 was always on offer against Fiz Yama.

Somehow or other, by the way, it seems to always happen that no matter at what forlorn price a winner starts, no sooner is the race over than we meet fortunate individuals who had backed it. So it was after the “outsider” had won his dearly bought victory on Wednesday last. One man I met had taken, not 50—1, but 100—1—fifty pounds to half a sovereign—about Fiz Yama. Another there was who had taken 25—1 to ten sovereigns (some time ago) and had been obliged to stick to his bet because the horse had dropped out in the betting; and I heard, on what I believe to be quite reliable authority, of another fortunate individual who had won 14,000sovs., but this was, I was told, a professional

speculator well known as a starting-price commission agent. As for the race itself, as far as I could see, winner and loser were always leading, always running in very close company, and as the race was ridden either of them might have had his head in front at the winning-post. That one happened to be Fiz Yama, but I do think that with a stronger jockey in the saddle Grave Greek would have won with something in hand. I am not by any means implying that Calder rode badly; all that I mean is that I do not think that he was physically strong enough to

get the most out of his horse at the end of such a long and severe race. Moreover, the boy had, I believe, worked hard to get down to the required weight and had, in so doing, taxed his strength even before the race began. So much for the winner and the loser, but what about some of the others? There was Lavaine, third, a length and a half behind the second, a head more behind the winner. A good many people think he ought to have won outright, and there is at least this in favour of their argument—that he was carrying 2lb. overweight in order that Whalley might be able to ride. Now, in the ordinary way, 2lb. would mean something like a length, but over the Cesarewitch course it might well mean a length and a half or more, so that it does seem as though without the extra 2lb. Lavaine might well have won. Then there was Night Hawk, whose running amply confirmed the opinion I have all along held, that he was a colt of very moderate class. That being so,

what are we to think of the other three year olds—taking them as a whole? Little, I am afraid, except to repeat that they are bad, very bad, race-horses. There it was, a winner of the St. Leger, only carrying 7st. 11lb. (a 10lb. penalty included), and yet unable to get so much as a place in a long distance handicap. The 7st. 11lb. included, by the way, a 10lb. penalty for winning the St. Leger, and the probability is that even the 7st. 11lb. which he had been allotted in the framing of the handicap was an all too flattering estimate of his capabilities. A colt of very moderate class Night Hawk appears to be, but he is none the less a mysterious animal. We were told—I myself was so told—that in spite of the fact that both Roseworthy and



W. A. Rouch.

FIZ YAMA.

Copyright.

The Winner of the Cesarewitch.

Louvois gave him 15lb. and a sound beating a week before the St. Leger, both his trainer and rider came to the conclusion that he would win that race. That, in itself, is an extraordinary fact—if fact it be. Still, he did win the St. Leger, and then, with such guides to form—Cesarewitch form—as Balcadden and Dormant in the stable, W. T. Robinson, who is responsible for the training of the colt, seems to have arrived at the conclusion that he would win the Cesarewitch. Colonel Hall Walker himself—the owner and breeder of the colt—does not bet;

but that notwithstanding, the colt was backed, and that to such purpose that at 7 to 1 he and Wagstaffe were equal favourites. I do not, of course, know that either Balscadden or Dormant had been asked to examine Night Hawk—it is, in fact, more than probable that they had not been called in. Be that as it may, the betting showed plainly enough that the colt was very much expected—by whom I do not know—to run well, if not to win; but what he did was to supply further proof—if proof were wanting—that he and the rest of this year's three year olds are animals of very moderate class, with perhaps—up to now it is only perhaps—one or two exceptions, such as Florist and Cantilever. There it is; Fiz Yama may have profited by his recent races, but I still think that with a stronger jockey in the saddle Grave Greek would have beaten him again last week, and cannot therefore help sympathising with Sir Charles Nugent and Mr. J. S. Morrison in again losing such a race as the Cesarewitch by a head, and that, curiously enough, with the colts out of the same mare. The mare—Greek Girl—is, by the way, now owned by Lord Rosebery, and has, I believe, been mated with Chaucer. Rivoli ran really well under his big weight, Charlton—a thorough stayer, I am sure—took just as much exercise as it pleased him to do in the course of the race, and Ringstead did his best to get the colt out, but did not seem to be able to do so to much purpose; and as for the other horses, save and except Lavaine, the pace was too strong for them. I except Lavaine because, carrying 2lb. overweight for the services of Whalley, he was only beaten by about a length and a half, and over the Cesarewitch course 2lb. now, I think, represents rather more than that. From a breeder's point of view, the result of the Cesarewitch was decidedly interesting, for the desperate battle between winner and loser was fought out by two horses from whom just a display of stamina might have been expected from their respective pedigrees. Fiz Yama is by Santoi—sire of many good stayers—out of Fizzer II., by Kendal out of Queen of Beauty, by Ben Battle out of Claret Cup, by Claret out of Grammachree, an own sister to Birdcatcher. And Grave Greek is by Wargrave (sire of Warlingham and himself a winner of the Cesarewitch), out of Greek Girl, got by Trenton out of Thes-saly, by Wisdom. The three year olds we have for the time being dismissed as being of not much account; let us hope we shall have something better to say of this year's two year olds this time next year. But as to that I have my doubts.

The Tetrarch there is—a host in himself as far as speed is concerned. I doubt, indeed, if, fit and well, he would not beat any horse in training at five furlongs; but his stamina remains to be proved. Next to him I suppose we should have placed Stornoway; but Stornoway is, unfortunately, touched in his wind, and albeit in the Middle Park Plate last week he was giving 3lb. to Corcyra, I very much doubt if he could have beaten him at even weights. Lord Londonderry's colt is, indeed, to my way of thinking, clearly entitled to rank as the second best two year old of the season, and he is, moreover, just the sort to train on next year. He is by Polymelus (3) out of Pearmain 6, by Persimmon 7 out of Nennemoosha, by Hagioscope 23 out of Wenonah, by Galopin, and is a well-grown, sturdy colt, with plenty of range and scope; some little trouble there was, I believe, with his hocks, but that has been successfully overcome. We must, I am afraid, look upon Stornoway in the light of a vanishing quantity as far as next year's racing is concerned, but all being well we shall have to refer again to Corcyra—he is engaged in the Two Thousand Guineas and the St. Leger, but not in the Derby—nor is it by any means

impossible that Sir J. Thursby's colt, Kennymore—third in the Middle Park Plate when receiving 4lb. from Corcyra and 7lb. from Stornoway—will make great improvement between now and next year. He is, at all events, a very well bred colt, being by John O'Gaunt (3) out of Croceum (1), by Martagon 16 out of Hag, by Hagioscope 23. It was his first appearance in public, and although still backward in condition, his appearance and style of going so impressed a famous trainer that, turning to me as the colt ran home, he said: "I wonder if that chap is entered for the Derby—he might be a Derby horse next year." Whether the negotiations for the purchase of Tracery—on behalf of an English breeder—will prove successful I do not know; a good deal depends, I think, on the condition of racing in America; but it is to be hoped that they may do so, for my lingering doubts as to what manner of horse Tracery is when well must surely have been dissipated by the style in which he beat Long Set in the Select Stakes. Prince Palatine, we know, beat Mr. Sol Joel's good horse with equal ease, but then everyone, or nearly everyone, looked upon Prince Palatine as being a race-horse of exceptional merit. So, too, I think is Tracery; nor can any fault be found with his breeding—by Rock Sand out of Topian, by Orme out of Plaisanterie.

TRENTON.

A POET-JOURNALIST.

WE have had the volumes which gave us the best work of Middleton the poet, the story-teller and the autobiography of the child, now we have Middleton the journalist. But in *Monologues* (Unwe) there is much more than journalism, for nearly all are just as fresh now as when they were written, and their only connection with the day lies in their reflection of the spirit of it. Whether they will remain unaltered by the

lapse of years, and with the high distinction which Middleton so jealously defined in "The Decay of the Essay," time alone can tell. They are extraordinarily personal for modern journalism, and they do not escape being didactic. In their author's eyes this would have appeared a deadly sin, but it is the spirit which dominates our age, and even the self-conscious Middleton could not wholly evade it. To our mind the best of all is the most didactic. "A Monologue on Love-Songs" is the formal statement of a creed, and a very sound creed it is, but Middleton himself did not attain to it; indeed, the only poems we can think of at the moment which conform are those of Theocritus, and most notably the immortal idyll in which he tells of the "Wooing of Daphnis." If Middleton had set out to write an appreciation of the Greek poet he could not have bettered the substance of this essay; and it is a curious illustration of



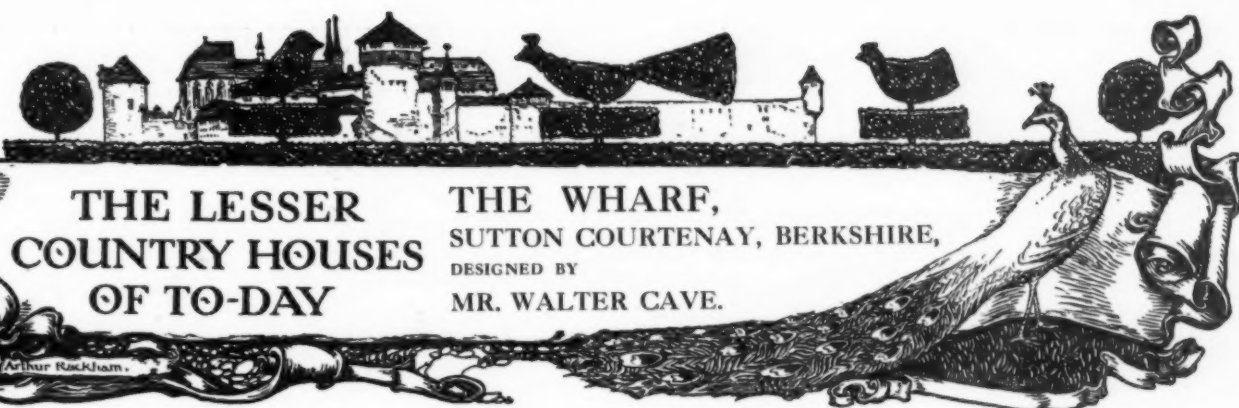
CORCYRA.

W. A. Rouch.

Winner of the Middle Park Plate.

Copyright.

Middleton's own aspirations and commentary on the literature of to-day, that Theocritus should have given the perfect expression to this ideal over two thousand years ago in the silver age of Greek art, while no living poet has the power. Does it mean that our golden age has passed from us, inasmuch as even our ambitions rise no higher than the Greek's attainment, or is it that Theocritus created the canon of the perfect love-song? We are inclined to believe that this last is the true interpretation. Another excellent didactic essay is on "The Tyranny of the Ugly." It is full of whimsy and humour, but there is, none the less, much underlying truth. We are told concerning the young man that "It may be that in the first joy of his appreciation of the beautiful he will think that his life and the life of any man may best be passed in the cultivation of a keener sense of beauty, that, to put it in a concrete form, it is better to grow and love roses in a cottage garden than to reign in an umbrella factory. But this briefest of the illusions of youth will be shattered forthwith by what appears to be the first law of civilised life, that a man can only earn his living by the manufacture of ugliness." These studies would show us, if proof were needed, that Middleton was a very careful and deliberate artist, working to a conscious and preconceived plan; the nonsensical idea that poems are chance ebullitions of something apart from, and uncontrolled by the poet, which was so carefully fostered by Victorian sentimentality, is now exploded, and this revelation of the creed and method of a man who was no mean artist is very well worth the reading.



TWO miles south of Abingdon is the unspoilt village of Sutton Courtenay, where Mr. Walter Cave has designed for Mrs. Asquith a little house of considerable charm. It has a frontage of no more than fifty feet to the village street, and the garden slopes gently down to a backwater of the Thames. Standing close by the waterside was an old barn, timber-framed, with brick panels. No attempt was made to add the new house to this, but it was repaired, and serves as an annexe. The ground floor is used as a big sitting-room, and the storey above yields a very attractive bedroom, as our pictures show. It was open to Mr. Cave to design the new house in the fashion of the old barn. He wisely elected rather to strike a later note and to follow the sedate traditions of the little eighteenth century brick houses which are so charming a feature of some of the Berkshire villages. In the result the quiet symmetry of the new building makes a pleasant contrast with the picturesque irregularities of the old barn denoted by the battery of time. The quarrel between the advocates of symmetry and the lovers of the picturesque is an old one, as readers of Horace Walpole know, and it raged with entertaining force about a century ago. The many men who wrote essays on rural architecture between about 1795 and 1815, and illustrated their professional views by their own designs, could not resist attacking each other on this point. One James Malton was all for irregularity in cottage building, and said so in an essay dated 1798. Richard Elsam issued a counterblast in 1803. His introduction might well have been written—if we overlook the pleasant stilted note—by one of the Liverpool University School intent on trouncing the gables and picturesqueness of some of our

garden suburbs. "Uniformity," says Mr. Elsam, "in the retired cottage, situated alone, I shall endeavour to prove cannot be too studiously attended to. Mr. James Malton in his *Essay upon British Cottage Architecture* hath given to the world several designs in support of a contrary opinion; but with great respect



Copyright.

THE FRONT TO THE VILLAGE STREET.

"C.L."

for the talents of that gentleman, I think he hath suffered his better taste to be overcome by a too zealous partiality for the rusticity of architecture; inasmuch as he hath strongly recommended the adoption of whatever appears to have been the result



Copyright.

GARDEN FRONT FROM NORTH—



—AND FROM WEST.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



FIRST FLOOR LANDING.



GATE TO GARDEN PASSAGE.



AN ALCOVE BEDROOM.

of chance, the want of contrivance and also of all regularity, than which, in detached small buildings, nothing can appear more unseemly or unhandsome." There is commonsense in all this, and much of the smaller architecture of to-day suffers from the presence of a contrived quaintness, which is not the outcome of the practical needs of planning. Elsam also observed that in his day vernacular building went on, done by peasant and farmer. "While these honest, industrious people continue," says Elsam, "to copy each other, which they have invariably done, from one century to another, there can be no danger of this style of building (for I will not call it architecture) falling into neglect, if it be of any importance to preserve." Little more than a century later we find Elsam's words wholly untrue of rural English building, save in a few isolated villages—there are one or two in the Cotswolds—where "copying from one century to another," which is tradition, has been maintained. He wins our sympathy by the note that "the peasant's cot and the farmhouse are not proper models of imitation for persons of fortune who are desirous of building themselves rural retreats . . . without being subject to the imputation of grotesque, or faced with such a



Copyright.

IN THE LIBRARY.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



THE WHARF, SUTTON COURTENAY: BARN FROM THE LAWN.

motley group of materials, dashed to insinuate the effects of age, and the appearance of being added to at different periods."

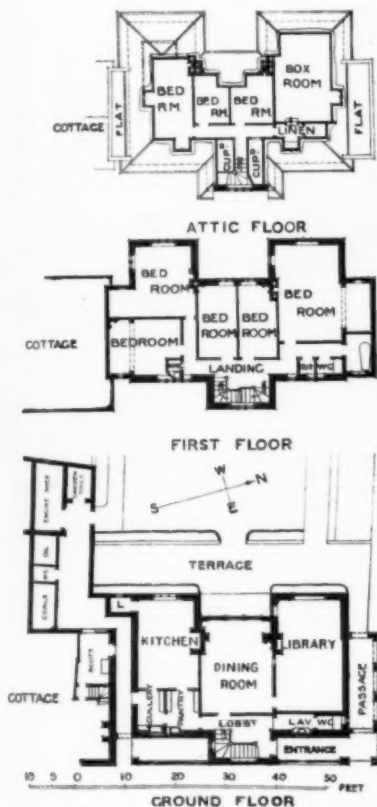
Architects to-day are too often asked to design houses which shall have the appearance of age, both by reason of their materials and of an affected plan and outline. Women clients are apt to say, "I want my house to look as though it had happened, an irresponsible sort of house, you know." The true answer is that good architecture, like any art worthy the name, does not arise casually, but is the outcome of intelligent thought, and a contrived unconsciousness is like the smile of the expert *ingénue*—it does not convince. When an old cottage or farmhouse is being enlarged to make it suit new needs, it is reasonable that the additions shall accord with the old work, though even then they should have an accent of their own to make their provenance clear. To build *de novo* with intent to give an appearance of age is as sensible as to bore worm holes in modern furniture. The latter

employment, after a profitable run for its exponents, has now taken its place among the vulgarities which have ceased to amuse. It is safe to say that in another ten years or so buildings which are not old but "antique" will have fallen into the same category. Modern architecture is a serious art, quite able to confess itself modern and to be judged by its own standards. It works in the light of great traditions, and stands or falls by the skill with which they are assimilated and presented with a new vitality. The time is going by, however, when architecture can be dressed up like the performers in a pageant, in a rustic picturesqueness which has no real significance to modern men and women, and the sooner it is realised the better for the public and for the profession which serves it.

In the design of The Wharf, Mr. Walter Cave has secured dignity for



THE WHARF, SUTTON COURTENAY: BARN & HOUSE FROM THE BACKWATER.



PLANS OF HOUSE.

the exterior by simple wall treatments—the bricks are a very good red—with such slight emphasis as is given by projecting quoins. The roof is suavely modelled and the dormers not too large, though big enough to give adequate light. The sitting-rooms are modestly treated, as our picture of the library shows, and good use is made of the roof space over the north bedroom by plastering between the rafters, the bed itself being in an alcove. The staircase is of a simple but effective trellis. Altogether, whether in the economical disposition of the planning or in the demure way that the house looks out both on the village street and on the green slope that goes down to the backwater, The Wharf is as satisfactory a little holiday house as the jaded architectural critic may hope to see.

L. W.



Copyright.

SITTING-ROOM IN BARN.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

BEDROOM IN BARN.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



A FINE MIXED KENNEL.

MOST men are satisfied if they achieve success in breeding and exhibiting dogs of a single variety, considering concentration of purpose necessary if the best results are to be reached. Upon a smaller number is conferred that intuitive faculty which enables them to prosecute their operations upon a wider plan, but Mr. H. Whitley of Primley, Paignton, is almost in a class by himself, for, in addition to owning outstanding kennels, he exhibits several varieties of poultry and pigeons, and, in conjunction with Mr. W. Whitley, he owns a large farm on which are to be seen some of the best Shire horses, South Devon cattle and sheep, and large black pigs. With the glorious gift of youth in his favour—he is yet several years under thirty—Mr. H. Whitley is too much occupied at home to spare time for visiting dog shows as frequently as some of us do, but his dogs, rarely fail to leave their mark at the principal events.

Mr. Whitley had served a useful apprenticeship, having been the breeder of many kinds of live-stock from early youth, when he first began exhibiting dogs in 1905, his team then comprising a rough collie, a pointer, and lemon roan and blue roan Cockers. In the intervening eight

years his tastes have expanded to such an extent that the construction of a further

range of kennels has just been necessitated. These are on the most approved



CH. PRIMLEY PRODIGAL.

Winner of Great Dane Club's Cup, 1910, 1911, 1913, and Ch. L.K.A. 1913.



T. Fall.

PRIMLEY PSYCHE.
A Great Dane puppy of much promise.

Copyright.

principles, beautifully and healthily situated overlooking Torbay. Among the inmates are the originals of Mr. Fall's fine photographs which illustrate this article. In 1906 some Great Danes were added to the strength of the establishment of sufficient merit to win at local shows. About the first brood bitch of this variety was Cloey Clu, by Mephistopheles, by the harlequin, Young Tilly, out of Lady Brindhilda, by Colonia Bosco. I have traced the pedigree back a generation or two, because, put to Champion Vanguard of Redgrave, she produced on April 1st, 1908, the handsome brindle, Champion Primley Prodigal, certainly one of the best Danes of the day. He has beaten every Dane of note, I believe, and on three occasions has been awarded the Great Dane Club's 40-guinea challenge trophy. From the picture one may note his grand outline, heavy though not coarse bone, and typical head. An early greyness about the muzzle makes him look somewhat older than he really is until he moves. He is a dog that fills the eye amazingly, however critically we may examine him in detail, and, whether on points or general symmetry, one has to acknowledge that his proud position is fully earned.

(Continued on page 15*)



The "DEVON" FIRE

FIRST IN OFFICIAL TESTS
carried out by
H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS
and
SMOKE ABATEMENT SOCIETY.

Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers
CANDY & CO., Ltd.

London Showrooms: Works:
87, NEWMAN ST., W. HEATHFIELD, DEVON.

SPECIAL AGENTS: Belfast, Birmingham, Cardiff
Dublin, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester,
Newcastle, Norwich, Nottingham.
(Names and addresses on
application).



Garden Ornaments.



Small Fountain or Drinking Basin for Birds.
Stone Basin with lead or bronze figure.

WELL HEADS · BIRD BATHS.
SUNDIALS · FOUNTAINS · VASES.
ETC., ETC., in Stone, Lead, or Marble.

JOHN P. WHITE & SONS,
LIMITED,
123, NEW BOND ST., W.

COUNTRY HOUSE LIGHTING.

A LETTER from

Sir John Twigg,
The Red House,
Mettingham,
Bungay.

"Now that the light is installed and the contract practically completed, I should like to say how very pleased we are with the way in which the whole thing has been done. We are greatly indebted to Mr. — for the way in which he advised and threw our requirements into shape, and the interest he has shown in getting things just right. As for the work itself, we have been more than pleased with the quiet, efficient way in which the foreman, Mr. —, carried out the scheme. He was always most obliging and helpful, and there was never any atom of trouble in the house at any time. We are altogether satisfied with the result so far as non-experts may judge."



A LETTER from

The Most Hon.
The Marchioness
of Sligo,
82, Eaton Square,
S.W.

"I have much pleasure in saying that I am thoroughly satisfied with the installation of Electric Light that you put up at MOUNT BROWNE, GUILDFORD, for me. I have used the light for two years, and have had no trouble with it. I found your workmen very civil and careful, and they spoiled nothing."

DRAKE & GORHAM

LIMITED
(Established 1886.)

LONDON 66^C, VICTORIA ST., S.W.
MANCHESTER 47^C, SPRING GARDENS
GLASGOW 50^C, WELLINGTON ST.

Telegraphic Address: "Accumulator, Sowest, London."

SOME EIGHTEENTH CENTURY TAPESTRIES.

TO lovers of tapestry the mere names of the famous looms of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are enough to conjure up visions of delight, for then the delicate fancifulness, the lavish nicety of detail which distinguished the best phases of the *tapissier's* art reached their highest level, and the looms of Beauvais and Aubusson were producing work which could not be equalled to-day. No modern cartoonist could echo the evanescent charm of Watteau or Boucher. It would be altogether foreign to the spirit of the age. Yet for that very reason, perhaps, and in obedience to the laws of contrast, the work of these artists, especially as expressed by the *tapissier*, has never been more keenly appreciated than it is at the present time. The least interested layman, for example, could scarcely fail to pause and admire the exquisite panel illustrated on this page. To the intelligent enthusiast it will be a rare joy, for it represents one of the finest

intent women, while his female companion watches over the antics of some boys and a monkey, and a youth on the front of the dais blows a trumpet. Beneath them a party of boys and a girl are playing with a wheel of fortune, while the girl's baby charge leans against her knee eating a cake. Slightly to the right of the picture a man is manipulating a large galanty show, at which a young woman, mechanically clutching a child, gazes open-mouthed through the spy-hole, and her friend impatiently waits her turn; finally, by the streamlet on the extreme right we have a lady and her admirer singing out of a music-book, she beating time with her hand while a man accompanies them on a guitar, and behind them a stone Bacchus stands upreared by the ruins of a circular temple. Not only is the composition of the whole panel perfect, but when we come to analyse it, it will be seen that each group is a complete work in itself, linked up with the next, however, with so much fastidious detail, and



old Beauvais tapestries in existence. Briefly, it is one of a set of eight designed by Boucher, whose signature and the date (1736) may be seen on the left. The panels were made for an ancestor of the Comte de Gattelier, and until a short time ago held their original position in the Castle of Beaulieu, near Roanne, on the Loire. Unfortunately, although the photograph may do justice to the composition, it can give little idea of the delicate colouring and brilliant texture of the panels, which are as perfect to-day as when they left the loom. The subjects of the principal patterns are treated in Boucher's inimitable manner, set in lovely and intricate borders woven in golden browns, while in the blue outer selvedge of each design is woven in yellow the mark a "Fleur-de-lys," the letters "A. C. C.," and the word "Beauvais."

The large panel which we illustrate, called "L'Operateur," may be regarded as the first of the series. It represents a fair which is being held amid the ruins of a temple in a wide landscape—a landscape that appears permeated with a sun-warmed breath of the world of day-dreams. Leisureliness and make-believe are the characteristics of the scene. On a canopy-shaded dais above the broken capital and drum of a classic column a charlatan offers a love-philtre, maybe, to a group of

so mellow and sympathetic in colour, that the widely varied figures and objects seem but the fitting complement of each other.

The other panels are: (2) "Le Jardinier," representing a boy gardener, a girl and a child with fruit and flowers (10ft. 8in. by 7ft. 5in.). (3) "Le Chasseur," a youth with a gun beside some game (10ft. 8in. by 3ft. 6in.). (4) "La Bohemienne." A group of figures, of which the centre is a fortune-telling gipsy (10ft. 8in. by 8ft. 2in.). (5) "La Fille aux Raisins," showing two girls seated in the foreground with a basket of grapes (10ft. 8in. by 3ft. 4in.). (6) "Le Panier d'Oeufs." A charming group of a seated girl and boy, with a basket of eggs between them (10ft. 8in. by 3ft. 2in.). (7) "The Collation," representing a gay picnic-party in the clearing of a wood (10ft. 8in. by 8ft. 5in.). (8) "Entre-deux." A narrow panel with branches of trees among which is perched a brilliant red macaw (10ft. by 2ft. 4in.).

The series, which is interesting in the extreme by reason of the perfection and variety of its treatment, has now passed into the hands of Messrs. Mallett and Son of Bath, who have them on exhibition and for sale at their London Showrooms at 40, New Bond Street.



PRIMLEY PHOEBE.

THREE PRIZE-WINNING GREYHOUNDS.
PRIMLEY PRESIDENT.

CH. CORNISH MAIDEN.

In the same litter was Primley Prudence, dam of the young blue bitch, Primley Psyche, winner of a first and five specials, including the cup for the best bitch puppy bred by exhibitor, at the Club Show in the spring, since when many other successes have been placed to her credit. Her sire, Blue Pride of Eskdale, was purchased from Mr. Milsted. This

The remarkable thing about them is that all are of the same parentage, being by Trumpington Dax out of Matford Rose, with Mr. Trimble as the lucky breeder. Beautifully marked blue roans and tan, they make charming pictures, and they have won up and down the country with uniform success. Other gun-dogs are the grand brace of blue Belton English setters,

at Primley, chief among which is the well known bitch, Champion Cornish Maiden. This is a quality black by Stray Park Dreadnought out of Beat, by Champion Pterodactyl. With graceful outline, rare depth of brisket, good neck and excellent legs and feet, it is not surprising that last year she picked up five challenge certificates, while the sequence has been



PRIMLEY PREMIER.

MR. WHITLEY'S SMOOTH COLLIES.



PRIMLEY PATIENCE.

dog also is a big winner, and on four occasions he has secured the Great Dane Club's cup for the best blue, and twice the movement cup, open to any colour. Another Dane of note was the black bitch, Haidee of Roselands, bred by Miss Gladstone, winner of challenge certificates at the Kennel Club and Birkenhead last year. In every respect she was thoroughly typical, and especially would I commend her rare neck carriage, which adds so much to the appearance of one of these giants. Scarcely had these words been written when the information reached me that she had succumbed to whelping troubles. A sad loss in every way. The black dog, Primley Proctor, has also figured frequently in the prize list.

Whatever may be said of their usefulness in the field—and one is glad to think that improvements are being made in this direction—field spaniels are undoubtedly good to look upon. Mr. Whitley has an imposing team which brings innumerable honours to the Primley kennels. Champion Matford Punch, winner of eight challenge certificates; Champion Matford Scout, winner of six; Champion Matford Bloom and Matford Skip constitute a quartet that would grace any company.

Rumney Rosaline and Rumney Rosemary, litter sisters by Craven Sceptre out of Rumney Rose, Mr. H. Gunn being the breeder. It is to be hoped that some of the puppies they have both recently bred may inherit their beautiful qualities. Several greyhounds of high merit may also be seen



T. Fall.

CH. MATFORD BLOOM.

Copyright.

continued this year. Recently maternal duties have kept her out of the ring. Primley President is a handsome blue and white dog, whelped in February of 1912. At Redruth, in July, he secured the special for the best dog in the show. The blue bitch puppy, Primley Phoebe, signalled her *début* at Blandford a few weeks ago by winning three first prizes. Manorley Mole, a pleasing blue whippet, well sustains the reputation of the kennels, to the population of which she added a short time ago.

Before concluding the survey of this remarkable collection of dogs, reference must be made to the smooth collies, Primley Premier and Primley Patience, both blue merles. Patience is a comparatively new-comer, good enough to win three firsts at Newport the first time out. This was followed with still greater significance at Barnstaple. I am glad to think that Mr. Whitley is giving some attention to this much-neglected variety, for to my mind a really first-class smooth has much to commend it, especially when it is of the striking blue merle marking. To go far one has to exhibit points beyond the common, as there is no profuse coat to smother up any structural defects. At

the same time, the absence of a long jacket makes it easier to keep them in nice condition.

In such a paper as COUNTRY LIFE, pursuits will not be inappropriate. In allusion to some of Mr. Whitley's further other fields the stud of Shire horses has won victories equal to those of the dogs. One may mention, for instance, that the 50-guinea gold cup at Ashbourne, the Greenall 50-guinea challenge cup at the Royal Lancashire Show, the 100-guinea Marquis of Bute Cup at Cardiff and the Thorney 20-guinea challenge cup are all now housed at Primley, having been won outright, the final victories for the last three all coming this year. At the Royal Agricultural Society's shows of 1911 and 1912 the female championship went to a Primley mare. At the Wirral and Birkenhead fixture last September the six Shire horses exhibited from this stud came away with four firsts three seconds, as well as the championship and a challenge cup. Numerous honours have fallen to Lorna Doone 64248, among them being first and championship at Peterborough this year. The thorough-bred stallion, Golden Grebe, and the polo stallion, Bold Marco, are not unknown to fame. Mr. Whitley has done remarkably well with his South Devon cattle, among the pick of which is the cow Fancy, winner at the Dairy Show of firsts for inspection, milk yield and the largest butter yield, and the Spencer Challenge Cup against all breeds. At Tring, Daisy came first among seventy-seven in the milking trial with a yield of 72.2lb. in the twenty-four hours. The pigeon lofts, which form another feature of interest at Primley, contain prominent winners at all the classic shows, and Mr. Whitley's homing pigeons have set up many notable performances. This year he won the cup offered by the local club for the best average made in a series of races with both old and young



CH. MATFORD PUNCH.

space has its limitations, and I must perforce stop.

THE KENNEL CLUB SHOW.

AS a considered account of the Kennel Club's great show has to be deferred until



FIELD SPANIELS.

CH. MATFORD PUNCH, CH. MATFORD SCOUT, MATFORD SKIP AND CH. MATFORD BLOOM.

next week, it may not be out of place to review one or two features of the exhibition that has just closed. In the first place, apart from the 1911 fixture, this is the strongest numerically of the long sequence promoted by the club, the three thousand six hundred and fifty-nine

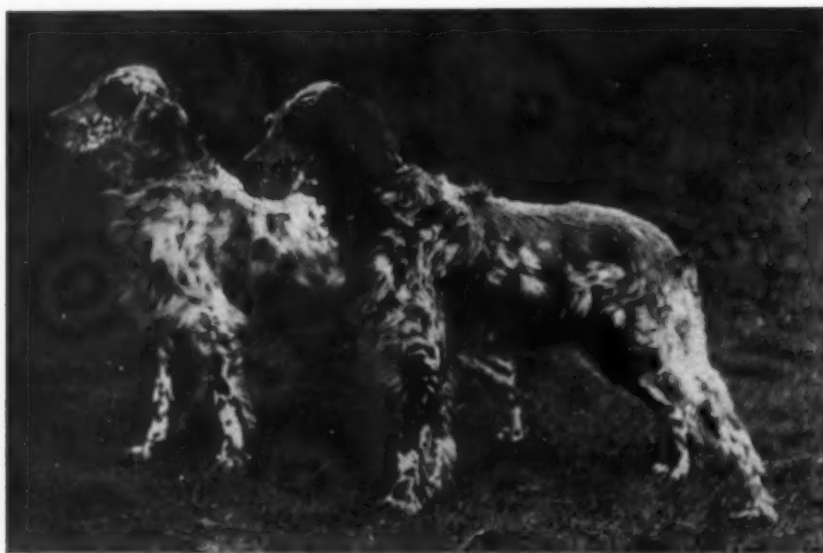
well under his brother, Lord Wrottesley. Smooth fox-terriers, however, were well in advance of everything else with two hundred and seventeen entries, the wires being sixty-two less. Even that is well above the average. Noteworthy, too, is the fact that Sealyhams have got in front of Scottish terriers, and were only one behind West Highland white terriers. To the man who wants the last cry one might well say, "Keep your eye on Sealyhams." Another terrier that is getting its teeth well home is the Cairns. Seventy-one entries this week is not so bad.

A WELCOME REVIVAL.

All indications point to a revival of interest in the St. Bernard, in face of the fact that the entries at the Kennel Club Show this week were thirteen fewer

than last year. So many circumstances may arise to bring about a diminution to this extent that it would be unfair to draw adverse conclusions. What is more material is that the breed is getting into more hands, with the consequent result that a wider general appreciation is apparent, and, what is equally wholesome, the honours are being distributed among a number instead of concentrated in the persons of two or three outstanding exhibitors. The last annual report of the National St. Bernard Club, just issued by Mr. Percy Manning, the hon. secretary, records a considerable increase in membership during the last year or two, and we may take it that people do not join a specialist body unless they are more or less directly concerned in the breed. The tide of prosperity, which had been ebbing since the palmy days of the Bowdon Kennels, seems to be once more on the turn, and if these noble animals should recover their former glory, one would, indeed, be delighted. In the early days of dog showing the St. Bernards were the chief objects of public interest, and that is not to be wondered at. The average man might know nothing of their points, but he had heard of their life-saving achievements on the Great St. Bernard's Pass, and nothing better could have been desired by way of *réclame*. Looking back over the past fifty years, and studying the pictures of early celebrities, even pictures of such dogs as the late Rev. J. Cumming Macdonald's Champion Tell, one cannot fail to be impressed by the changes effected by selective breeding and careful feeding.

A. CROXTON SMITH.



T. Fall. THE SETTERS, RUMNEY ROSEMARY AND ROSALIND. Copyright.

birds. Perhaps the chief was the Banff fly, the five hundred and two miles being traversed in eleven hours by a home-bred yearling, which was the only competitor in the club race to "home" in the day. So much is to be seen on this pleasant Devonshire farm that one could go on writing indefinitely, but

entries making an imposing array. Ten years ago it was felt that wonders were being accomplished as the three-thousand mark was neared. One wonders where we shall stop. Great Danes came up in rare style with one hundred and eighty-three entries for the Hon. W. B. Wrottesley to sort out, and Dachshunds mustered

ON THE GREEN.

By HORACE HUTCHINSON AND BERNARD DARWIN.

GOLF IN FRANCE.

AS one strolled about the course during the progress of the recent Open Championship of France at Chantilly, the nebulous idea of the Sunday became the interesting belief of the Monday, and the complete conviction of the Tuesday. There could be no denying the indications that were forthcoming from day to day; golf had really begun to touch the deeper feelings of the French people. I do not think that such signs had been provided at any previous meeting. To be sure, the zeal of a handful of enthusiasts, with M. Pierre Deschamps as their leader, had been unmistakable for years; but this small party never seemed to grow appreciably bigger, and there were times when one marvelled at the sustained interest of a dozen keen Frenchmen who went on promoting open and amateur championships, doing their utmost to disseminate a knowledge of the joy of golf among their fellow-countrymen, having the St. Andrews rules translated into the native language and doing a hundred and one other things demanding enterprise, energy and expense—all to seemingly little purpose.

But it is clear now that the reward of that labour of love is fast approaching. To all intents and purposes golf is just being born in France. At Chantilly, on the occasion of the latest championship, the environment was alive, for the first time, with proofs and tokens that French people other than the few progenitors of the proceedings were seriously interested in them. For a reason which is easy of explanation, I have a particularly clear recollection of one of the French open championships which J. H. Taylor won at La Boulie, near Versailles, four or five years ago. The last round resolved itself into a struggle for first place between Taylor and Massy, the latter of whom was then the local professional. As the afternoon advanced it became fairly certain that the Englishman would win unless he broke down badly at one hole. It was at about the eleventh hole that the situation developed sufficiently to indicate that in the absence of accidents, Taylor would be the victor, and scanning the valleys surrounding the high ground on which the club-house and ninth green are situate, in convenient juxtaposition, I searched for some minutes for the Taylor crowd.

It seemed certain that there would be at least three or four people watching him. At last I set eyes on Taylor in the distance. Not a soul was following him—none, at least, save his faithful caddie and the marker. Of course, his partner and his partner's caddie were of the company, but they had to be there. From a sheer spirit of decency I set out to afford the man who was winning the incentive of a gallery. He looked almost as grateful for the attention as the average man would do on

encountering a human being after a week of solitude in the Sahara Desert; he implored me to find out what Massy was doing because, at the part of the course in which Taylor was then playing, there appeared to be no likelihood of anybody ever arriving with news of the outside world. So I set off on this responsible mission; to and fro I went twice from Taylor, the neglected, to Massy, the cynosure of ten eyes belonging to five people; it was all very exciting for the reason that the struggle between the two men was close in the extreme. And to think that until near the finish only Taylor and I knew how really enthralling it was! The sole discouraging phase of the one's solitary distinction was that nobody else seemed to care. It would have been rather nice to feel that one had scored by being the only individual to select the right man to follow. A few members of the club followed Massy because he was their professional; for the rest the competition might have been among a detachment of whole-hearted "foozlers" fired with the ambition to win the junior spoon, for all the magnetism that it exercised on the multitude.

Much has happened since those days. The game has taken root in France and fastened its tentacles on the natives. No longer is it primarily the pursuit of the expatriated Englishmen and Americans in Paris and elsewhere. It has become a topic in sporting circles of the French capital. The club at Chantilly has 770 members, nearly all of whom are French people. Equally flourishing is the club at La Boulie, which is the mother of the game in France, and where seven or eight professionals are constantly employed during the season giving lessons. Golfers' trains run from Paris to each of these places, and the journey takes about half an hour. At Chantilly a special halt has been built beside the railway within 200 yds.

of the club-house. On Sundays the courses are crowded, and coaching is continually in progress, for the people of France are taking up the game in all earnestness, and are taking pains to learn it properly.

The other courses round Paris (and they are steadily growing in number) are prospering on the same flood-tide of popularity in France. At Fontainebleau, where Albert Tingey, formerly of West Herts, is now installed as instructor, recruits to the pastime are constant. Thirteen French professionals took part in the recent tournament at Chantilly, which circumstance was in itself a sign of the rise of the game. Arnaud Massy, by winning the British open championship in 1907, made it clear to us that the French players needed to be respected; but a decade ago a French golf professional was an almost unheard-of oddity. At the present time golf is firmly established in the affections of many French people, and is rapidly increasing the number of its adherents. A very fine course is being constructed at

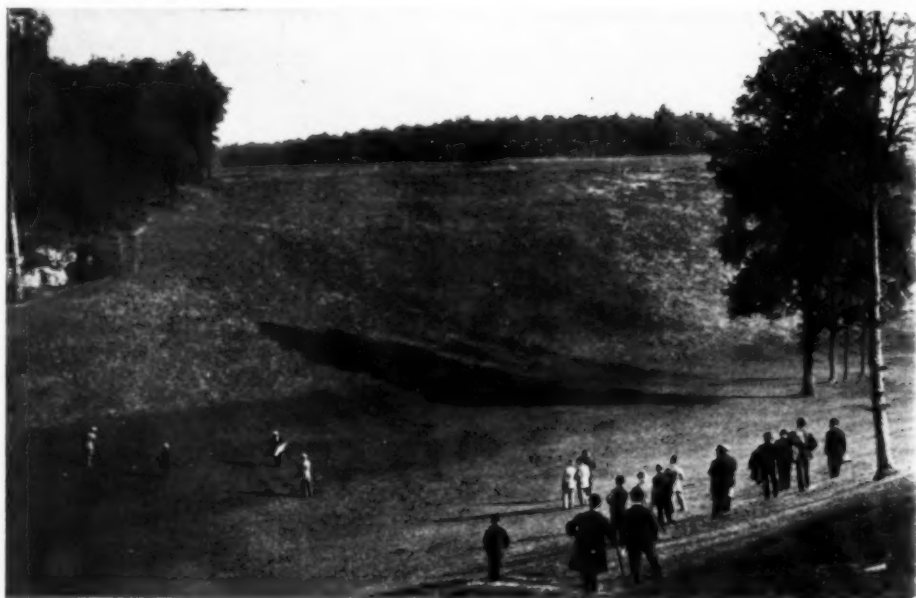


PRINCESS ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT PLAYING AT SANDWICH.

St. Cloud, which is on the road to Versailles, and a private green is even becoming part of the necessary adjuncts of the country house whose owner can afford to entertain his friends to a day of golfing sociability in seclusion. The Duc de Guiche has such a course at Vallières, about five miles from Chantilly. It is a very good course of nine holes designed by Mr. T. Simpson. Chantilly is perhaps the best green near the French capital. On the first day of the championship it was a trifle too long owing to the absence of run on the ball; but on the second day, when some of the tees were put forward, its many excellent qualities as a test of golf were seen in all their glory. It has a subsoil of sand and gravel, and the turf is usually so fast during the spring, summer and autumn that even the rather terrifying length of 6,655 yds. is not too great when the ball runs. La Boulie, with its dips and rises, may seem at first blush to offer the greater variety of shots and the bigger possibility of excitement; but, with all its good points, one doubts whether it is quite the equal of Chantilly, which has the quality of Hoylake in the sense that while the first view of it conveys an idea of length without distinctiveness, the more one sees of it the more evident become its admirable features. They are discovered one by one, so to speak, and I imagine that they can go on being discovered for years. It has, however, one almost violent piece of diversion in the form of a ravine, some eighty feet deep, with steep sides, which has to be crossed at the eighth and ninth holes. There is here incentive with a vengeance to hit a good drive to the ninth. The carry of 140 yds. or so that soars over the ravine rewards the executant by giving him the opportunity of taking a side path alongside the hollow and on to the fairway without making the precipitous descent and the strenuous climb. But let him miss his drive and down he has to go into the depths. R. E. HOWARD.

MISS RAVENSCROFT'S VICTORY.

MISS RAVENSCROFT is much to be congratulated on winning the American Ladies' Championship. From the beginning of the tournament one had a comfortable feeling that both Miss Ravenscroft and Miss Dodd were probably a little better than their opponents, and that one of them would win. At the same time, one had had just the same feeling about Ray and Vardon, and had received a very uncomfortable shock. Consequently it was a very genuine relief to see in Monday morning's paper that Miss Ravenscroft really had won. She only won by two holes, after a very hard fight with Miss Hollins, who seems to have risen to the occasion against the invader with characteristic American "sand." In the semi-final Miss Ravenscroft beat Miss Dodd by a number of holes so large that it need not be uncharitably specified. In that match she seems to have played



DUNCAN PLAYING AN APPROACH SHOT AT CHANTILLY.

quite irresistibly. There could not possibly be a worthier champion than Miss Ravenscroft, for her game bears all the indisputable hall-marks of what is vaguely, but expressively, called "class." She drives with a fine, powerful, deliberate swing that contains a suggestion of force kept in reserve, but she can do what is given to few ladies to do, namely, play a strong, forcing iron shot without too long and too loose a swing. Sometimes she putts very badly, but that is quite a common weakness among champions.

A "SCOTCH FOURSOME."

There are one or two things about American golf that are calculated to astonish the more rigidly conservative of British golfers. He may in the first place be only mildly horrified to find that what is alluded to as a "foursome" is really a four-ball match. When he comes to watch the four-ball match, his feelings will very likely be further outraged by his observing that the last one of the four players is religiously holing out at every hole, quite irrespective of the fact that his doing so cannot possibly influence the match. A may have done a three, but B, his partner, will solemnly finish the hole out in eight. The explanation of this phenomenon is that, in addition to the ordinary match, there is another subsidiary contest going on in which the reckoning is by the aggregate scores of the two sides. When this game is played it appears, near Chicago, at any rate, to be called a "Scotch Foursome," presumably because it is not a foursome and not Scotch. Would not the late Mr. George Glennie turn in his grave if he heard of it? For this form of game there is one thing, and, as I think, one thing only, to be said. It is often urged against the four-ball match that the player has too little sense of responsibility. A lays a magnificent long second close to the hole, and, as far as practical politics are concerned, there is nothing for his partner, B, to do. His vilest stroke can do no harm and his best can hardly mend matters. Now, in this "Scotch Foursome" the strain of responsibility is continuous for all four players, and in that respect it has, no doubt, an educational value. But it seems to be so desperately long drawn out and tedious that nothing can possibly justify it.

SOME NEW DECISIONS ON THE RULES.

There was one rather odd question among the last batch asked of the Rules of Golf Committee. A and B were the finalists in a match tournament, and stood all square with one to play. A lost his ball, but B, who, so we are told, "disliked winning by a technical stroke of fortune," persuaded A to drop another ball and play out the hole. The rather easily persuaded A did so, and "won" the hole. The Rules Committee recommend that the prize should be awarded to neither party, a decision with which every law-abiding citizen will sympathise. A should surely have been dragged at the feet of wild horses before dropping another ball. There is another singular question as to whether, in a bogey competition, a competitor may leave out a hole and count it a loss, to which the answer is, "Yes; but such a proceeding is not in accordance with the spirit of the game."

MR. HORACE HUTCHINSON.

It is truly delightful to be able to add that on a copy of these answers of the Rules Committee there is a little pencil note signed "H. G. H." All golfers will be glad to know that Mr. Hutchinson is going on as well as can possibly be expected after his very severe operation. He has been moved from his nursing home and has borne the move well, and there is now every reason to hope that he is starting on a necessarily slow but sure convalescence. B. [D.]



MISS RAVENSCROFT, LADY CHAMPION OF AMERICA.

URBITOR BURBERRY

Weatherproof—Warm—Airylight

IN BRIGHT SUNSHINE or heavy rain, cold winds, or blizzard-driven snow

THE URBITOR

an all-wool weatherproof overcoat makes all seasons equally delightful by the perfect protection and comfort it ensures.

LIGHT AND LISSOME, warm and efficient, pleasing to handle, airylight and air-free, **THE URBITOR** is beyond comparison.

BURBERRY PROOF all-wool coatings are the materials used for **The Urbitor**. These vary in texture to suit the climate.

THE DESIGNS of **The Urbitor** lead the fashions in the tailoring world, in the same way that the colourings and patterns of **Urbitor Coatings** of the present year are made the basis upon which woollen manufacturers work for next.

THE URBITOR is the **ONE** Overcoat, the **ONE** Weatherproof, the best top-covering in its Autumn and Winter textures for the coming season.

NOTE.—*The Weatherall and other coats illustrated are weatherproofs of the same general character as The Urbitor.*



Race Weatherall
Smart and protective.



Paletot Burberry
A splendid model for travel or everyday wear.



Senator Burberry
A union of security, comfort and distinction.



Weatherall Burberry

(D.B. Model), a valuable addition to the most luxurious wardrobe, distinguished by inimitable smartness.

BURBERRY COATS CLEANED, reproofed and overhauled by **Burberrys**, are returned thoroughly cleansed of all impurities, reproofed against rain and practically as good as new.

Illustrated
Catalogue
and
Patterns of
Burberry
Materials
Post Free.



THE URBITOR

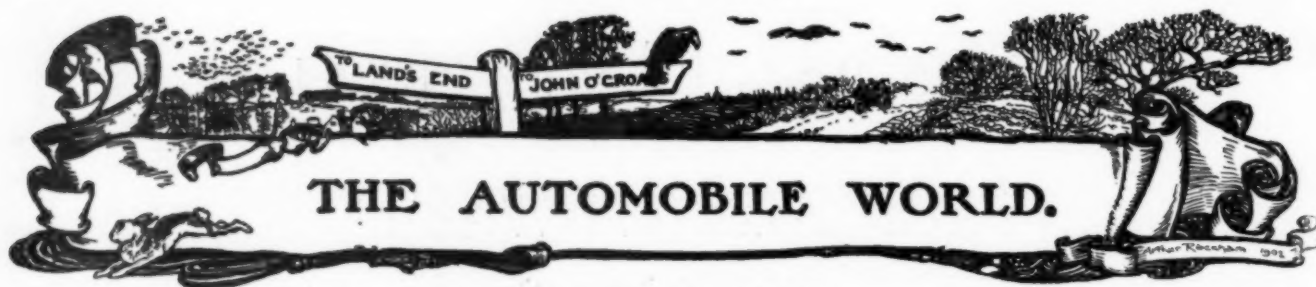
Every genuine
Burberry Garment
bears this label



BURBERRYS

Haymarket
LONDON

8 and 10 Boulevard Malesherbes PARIS, Basingstoke and Provincial Agents



THE PARIS SHOW.

SOME sort of a revival of interest in the Salon de l'Automobile has been created this year from the fact that, for the first time for many years, it precedes the London Exhibition in respect of date. Time was, of course, when British motorists flocked to the Grand Palais in thousands in order that they might view the latest Continental models at the earliest possible date; but in those days it was not merely a question of priority of exhibit, but of superiority also, for the bulk of the automobile industry was of foreign origin. When the date of the Olympia Exhibition was put forward, however, there was no longer the urgent need to go to Paris, as naturally the bulk of the Continental makers were represented by their English agents. Following on this factor came the further and important one of the rapid rise of the home industry; and so, in due course, the London Show became not only the earliest, but also the most important of the year, as it embodied the leading foreign cars and, in addition, the full strength of the British trade.

All that was then left to the Paris Salon was its brilliance as a show, the beauty of the Grand Palais combining with the magnificence of the decorations and the wonderful illuminations to make it worth visiting as a spectacle alone. The building remains, but the other glories have departed. No longer do the exhibitors vie with each other in the erection of stands costing thousands of pounds, and no longer are hundreds of thousands of francs expended on artistic illuminating schemes of stupefying splendour. The stands and signs of this year's show are uniform throughout, every exhibitor being served alike; the illumination is adequate, but on wholly conventional lines. In other words, the Salon has become, like Olympia, a strictly commercial undertaking, where customers'

orders are more valued than the admiration of sightseers for the erstwhile effectiveness of the *mise en scène*.

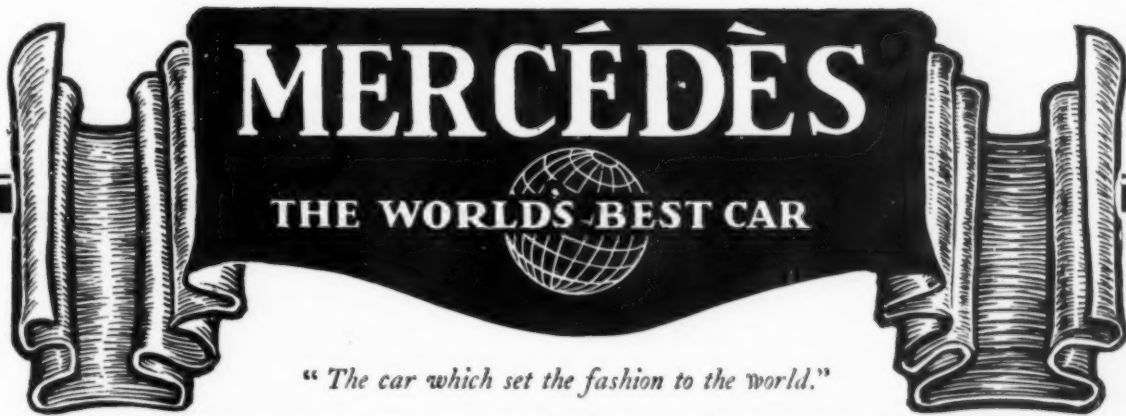
The Paris Show, therefore, is now dependent purely and simply on the quality of its exhibits. These, as heretofore, are displayed to the best advantage by reason of the size of the building and its wonderful daylight brightness under a spacious canopy of glass, while the broad gangways make the task of the seeker after a new car eminently more agreeable than is possible at Olympia. French exhibitors, of course, predominate, but Great Britain, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain and America are all represented, and only by analysis of the catalogue itself could the absence of any firms of note be detected. The American contingent is stronger than on previous occasions, as is only natural from the growing popularity of the cheap car in France as well as in Great Britain. French makers have been no less unwilling than the English to cater for the motorist who aspires to the possession of a car of very low first cost and inexpensive upkeep, and the Americans, producers of light "runabouts," are profiting on both sides of the Channel accordingly. The British representation is stronger than was wont to be the case, such well known firms as the Daimler, Rolls-Royce, Wolseley, Humber, Austin, Sunbeam and Vauxhall each having its own stand, and mostly in a good position.

On the Rolls-Royce stand are three cars, which attract a good deal of attention by reason of the popularity which this *marque* has now gained upon the Continent. Two of the vehicles staged are limousines, by Kellner et Fils and J. Rothschild et Fils respectively, while the third is a London-Edinburgh touring car, with a body by Muhlbacher and Co. This last named has been sold to the Grand Duke Michael of Russia. Mr. Henry Deutsch



THE PARIS MOTOR SHOW.

View of the Grand Palais, showing the new uniform scheme of stand decoration.



1914 MODELS REDUCTION IN PRICES BUT NOT IN QUALITY

POPPET VALVE MODELS:

12-15h.p. 4-cyl., Live Axle, with Tyres and Detachable Rims, New Mercedes Patent Double Cone Leather Clutch, and New Carburetter	£325	25-30h.p.	£550
15-20h.p.	£425	35-40h.p.	£675
		45-50h.p.	£750
		80-90h.p. (Chain Drive and Chain Cases)	£1150

SLEEVE VALVE MODELS:

15-25h.p. 4-cyl., Live Axle, with Tyres and Detachable Rims	£525	25-30h.p.	£675
		45-50h.p.	£975

ON VIEW, STAND 66 OLYMPIA

November 7th.
TO
November 15th.

Sole Representatives for the United Kingdom—
MILNES-DAIMLER-MERCÉDÈS, LTD.,
132, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.
Telegraphic Address "Milnes, Rand, London."
Telephone Gerrard 8910, 8911 and 8912

Agents for Liverpool and District—Bruce & Cockrell, 16-18, Berry Street, Liverpool. :: Agents for Glasgow and District—West End Motor Co., 52, Woodlands Road, Charing Cross, Glasgow. :: Agents for Manchester and District—Crawford, Ltd., Stretford Road, Manchester. :: Agents for Newcastle-on-Tyne—Percy Motor Co., Ltd., Northumberland Street.

C.D.C.

SATISFACTION

Proof that he is going to be satisfied, is what the prospective car purchaser demands. He does not want a lot of gloss. If he is told that it is "absolutely the best car on earth" he has a right to know **why** it is. Specifications and trial runs count for something with him—he can then gauge the efficiency and reliability of the car—sufficiently well to lead him to a decision. The

MIESSE

lives right up to its reputation as "The Car without a Peer." We shall be happy to demonstrate its qualities to you by arranging a trial run. Your time is our time.

We are exhibiting at the Olympia Motor Show on Stand 120

HANS MOTOR CO. LTD., 4, Hans Road, London, S.W.

Telegrams: "WORKBENCH, LONDON."

Telephone: 2566 KENSINGTON.

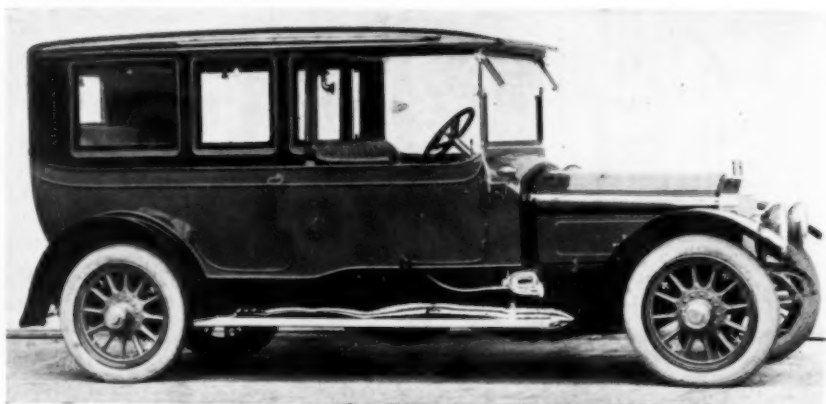
de la Meurthe has also acquired two Rolls-Royces. The Austin exhibit comprises four cars and a new 30 h.p. chassis, which embodies sundry improvements of detail. The bodywork of the covered cars is typical of the well known Austin coachwork, while a striking exhibit is the Colonial touring model, which presents many interesting features. It is built very high from the ground, with 1,020m.m. by 120m.m. wheels and a minimum clearance of 12in. The wheel track is also very liberal, and the body itself is equipped throughout with a view to travelling over rough ground. The rear seats, for example, are unique, consisting of a couple of chairs fitted with roller springs and flexible backs, capable of insulating the passengers from the effects of jolting over bad roads or the fatigue of long journeys. Neat and novel alike is the fitting of the hood, which, when out of use, is entirely enclosed in a casing which can be firmly closed by lids fitted with milled nuts. This case is painted in the same colour as the body generally, and, as a matter of fact, the presence of the hood is not even suspected until it is unfurled. Another novel feature is the fitting of detachable wooden driving wheels, the locking method of which is a special Austin design, employed for the first time. It need hardly be pointed out that the average detachable wheel of the artillery type has spokes of steel.

A fine display is made by the Wolseley cars, which include a 24—30 h.p. cabriolet phaeton, fitted with a compressed air self-starting device; an imposing limousine, a landaulet and a 16—20 h.p. touring phaeton. The firm has found its 1913 cars so satisfactory, however, that no changes in design have been found necessary, and there are therefore no novelties to be reported. Prominent on the Sunbeam stand is the twelve-cylinder racing car which covered 1,078 miles 460yds. in twelve hours at Brooklands, and the extraordinary torpedo-like appearance of its slender body attracts no small degree of notice. On the Vauxhall stand may be seen an "interior drive" limousine, by Mulliner of Northampton, fitted to a 35 h.p. six-cylinder chassis. It is painted in dark green and black, and has a domed roof and high central doors. A cabriolet, a 25 h.p. Brooklands model and a 25 h.p. chassis are also on view.



THE NEW CANOE-SHAPED BODY.

A French innovation which has little to recommend it.

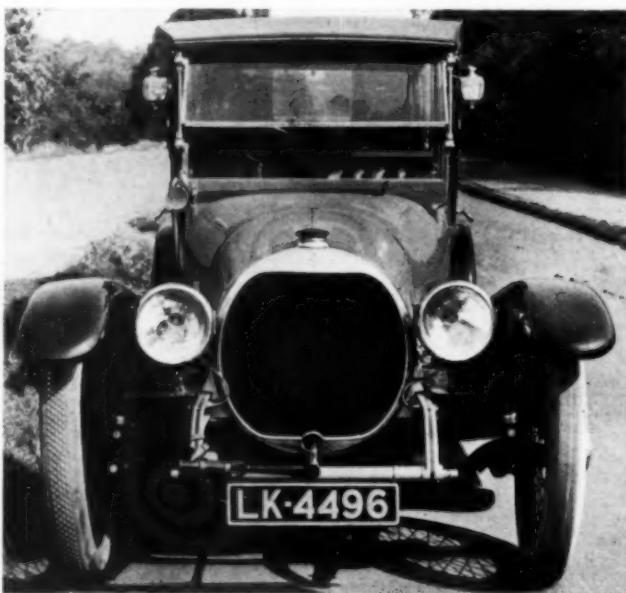


A 24—30 H.P. WOLSELEY LIMOUSINE.

On view at the Paris Exhibition.

Of general tendencies as displayed by the cars of all nationalities throughout the show, it may be said that there is comparatively little to be chronicled in the way of departure from current practice. Electric lighting sets are more in evidence, but self-starters, though

they are seen here and there, are less numerous than might have been expected. The chief element of change is in the radiators. These now assume every variety of departure from the old square pattern, in the shape of curves of various form, while there is a considerable increase in the use of pointed radiators, the Mercédès being a noteworthy convert. The only other feature of decided change is the increased use of long underslung springs, while several examples of the cantilever are also to be seen. In the case of the Bayard-Clement chassis, even two inverted springs are superimposed! Light cars are, of course, numerous, but less so, perhaps, than it would have been natural to expect in the face of American competition. On the other hand, the success of the Rolls-Royce in the Continental markets has led to the revival of sundry large models in the shape of 40 h.p. chassis, and



THE SIZAIRE-BERWICK CHASSIS.

One of the novelties to be seen at the Grand Palais.

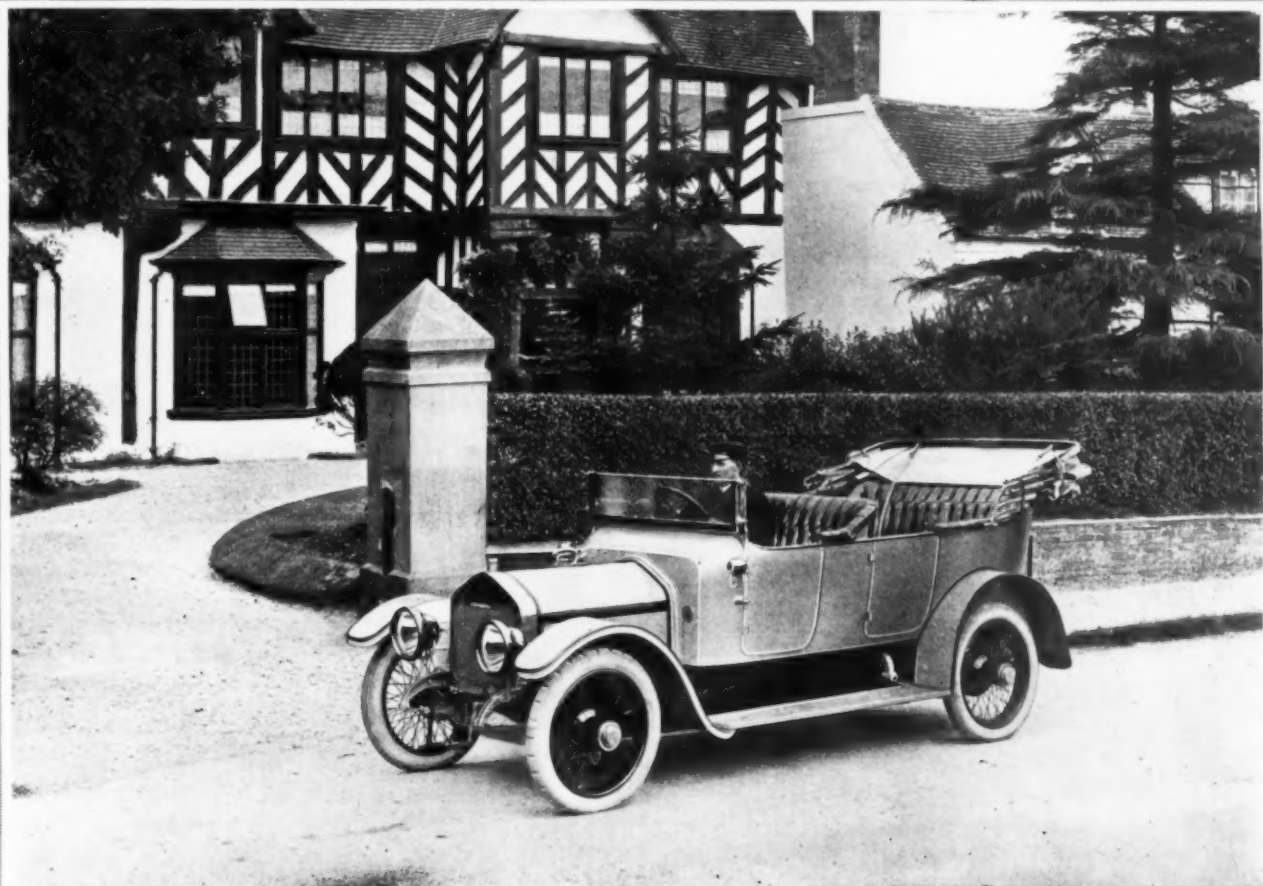
the Mercédès firm displays a new 65 h.p. pattern with, singular to relate, a live axle drive, as well as showing the big 38—90 h.p. chain-driven type. The Renault, the Bayard-Clement, the Brassier and the De Diétrich are among other cars which are shown in high-powered forms.

Undoubtedly the most interesting novelty in the way of an individual chassis is the new Sizaïre-Berwick, inasmuch as it represents one of the most emphatic departures from previous policy that has ever been witnessed in the motor industry. The original Sizaïre-Naudin car, as old-time visitors to the Salon will well remember, was put forward several years ago as the first definite attempt to produce a cheap small car by radically simplifying the then current methods of construction. As such the car gained a vogue, and though it was ultimately enlarged, it was always a light car. A change in the personnel of the firm, however, has resulted in a pronounced bid for the high-class market, in the shape of an eminently up-to-date chassis of the finest construction, which we hope to describe in detail on an early occasion.

Coachwork at the Paris Show is usually very interesting, as generally one encounters new ideas in covered bodies and occasional examples of specially designed touring cars. This year, however, the display is, on the whole, disappointing. In the limousine class there is little or nothing to attract notice, while

WOLSELEY

"The Cars for Refinement and Reliability."



A WOLSELEY 16/20 H.P. TORPEDO PHAETON.

The new models for 1914, fitted with superb
Wolseley Coachwork, will be exhibited on

STAND No. 60, OLYMPIA

November 7th to 15th

LONDON DEPOT:
YORK STREET,
WESTMINSTER.

Telegrams:
"AUTOVENT, VIC.
LONDON"
Telephone: 6220 Victoria.

THE WOLSELEY TOOL AND MOTOR CAR CO., Ltd.,

Proprietors: VICKERS, LIMITED,

ADDERLEY PARK,
BIRMINGHAM.

Telegrams:
"EXACTITUDE,
BIRMINGHAM."

Telephone:
6153 CENTRAL.

MARINE DEPT.:

COLUMBINE YARD,
EAST COWES, I.O.W.

Telegrams:
"WOLSELEY, COWES."
Telephone: 493 Cowes.

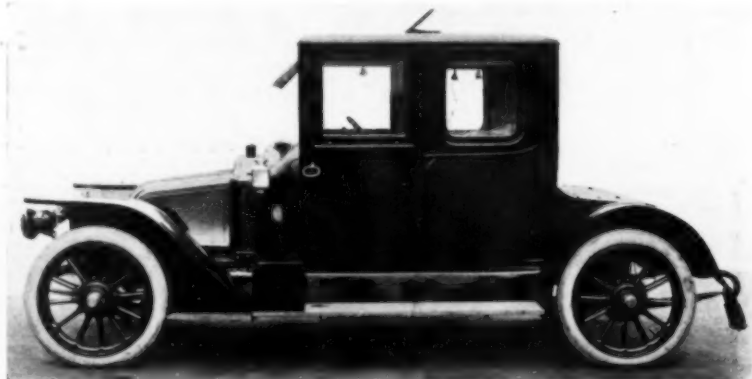
few variations are discernible in last year's methods of open car construction, so far as concerns bodies for ordinary use. At the same time there is a very pronounced endeavour to exploit one new type, but it is so essentially unpractical that it must be regarded more in the nature of a *véclame* than a serious stage in the evolution of the touring car. The type in question is the "skiff torpedo," and it is shown in various forms, of greater or less degree of approximation to an actual boat. In some cases the finish is in natural wood; in others the outside is painted, but the shape of a boat is more or less preserved. One sample, fitted by Alin et Liantard to a Th. Schneider chassis, is carvel-built, with alternate planks of light and dark wood, and in exterior is the most boat-like of any, but the interior fittings are of the normal type. Similarly, a Gobron chassis has a Rothschild cruiser body, which at first sight looks extremely like the real thing, but examination shows its nautical embellishments to be purely decorative. The side lamps are made to look like ventilating shafts, and there are two lights in the scuttle, while the door handles are shaped like miniature brass rowlocks. The woodwork is also studded with innumerable copper rivets, and the scuttle interior is ribbed. More actually boat-like are the Panhard skiff torpedo and the Abadal, by Labourdette, while Alin et Liantard have a skiff body on an Abadal which is on decidedly marine lines. The type generally, however, is suggestive both of insecurity and discomfort, especially to the rear passengers in the well, who might easily be thrown out. It is easy to predict a short life for this particular class of *carrosserie*, save for those who do not take their motoring very seriously.

Under the name of the *type sport* a number of cars are shown with three-seated bodies, the rear seat of which is like the well of a boat; sometimes the passenger is comfortably enclosed, and in other cases he sits in obvious insecurity, where high speed and the possible bumping over a gully are concerned. Access to cars of this type is often obtained by iron or brass steps, the ordinary side platforms being dispensed with. Short flared wings are occasionally fitted, while in one or two cases there is a central step which is coupled to long, high mudguards. For some inexplicable reason the guards in certain instances are pointed at the ends.

The only other feature of note in body designs generally is a general tendency to affix a scuttle behind the front seats. It may be fitted with lockers, opening from above, or have cabinet-work fittings accessible from behind. Several examples are also shown of big touring bodies with a rounded or even pointed stern. In the way of improved methods of carrying luggage, however, the designs generally are conspicuously wanting.

AN ELECTRIC LIGHTING TEST.

ONE of the new Cadillac cars, which were briefly described in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE, has been submitted to a



A LIMOUSINE COUPE.

Built by the London Improved Coachbuilders, Limited.

1,000 miles trial under the observation of the Royal Automobile Club, with results which are of considerable interest to the practical motorist. A special feature of the Cadillac is its combined electric starting, lighting and ignition system. The engine is a large one, its bore and stroke being 4½ in. and 5½ in. respectively, and the fuel consumption worked out at 17·17 car-miles, or 37·46 ton-miles to the gallon, the total running weight of the car, including load, being 43½ cwt. During the trial the engine was started by the electrical starter 130 times, the longest interval between



ON GOLF LINKS, KIRRIEMUIR.

The Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Aston Cross,
Birmingham; and 14, Regent St., London, S.W.
Paris: Rue du Colonel Moli.
Berlin: S.W., 13, Alexandrinenstrasse, 110.

**DUNLOP TYRES
AND "V" GOLF BALLS.**

Both champions for long distance driving.

*Now is the time
to Order Your New Car*

SEEMANN & STONES

LTD.

SUPPLY

ALL 1914 MODELS

AND CAN GIVE

EARLY DELIVERY

Your present car taken in part exchange

QUOTATIONS FOR ANY CHASSIS OR COMPLETE CAR,
FITTED WITH ANY TYPE OF BODY, SENT ON DEMAND

SEEMANN & STONES, LTD.

NORWICH UNION BUILDING,

39, ST. JAMES'S ST., PICCADILLY, W.

Phone: REGENT 212.

Telegrams: "ROYALER, LONDON."

Beldam

New Type—The "V" Steel-Studded

This has been introduced to meet the demand
for a tyre with the main qualities of the
famous BELDAM DE LUXE at less
cost. Made in all the usual standard sizes.

SIZES	PRICES PER COVER.
760 x 90	£5 : 5 : 0
810 x 90	5 : 12 : 6
760 x 100	6 : 6 : 0
810 x 100	6 : 14 : 0
815 x 105	7 : 5 : 0
875 x 105	7 : 10 : 6
820 x 120	8 : 3 : 0
880 x 120	8 : 12 : 6
920 x 120	8 : 17 : 6
895 x 135	9 : 19 : 0
935 x 135	10 : 10 : 6

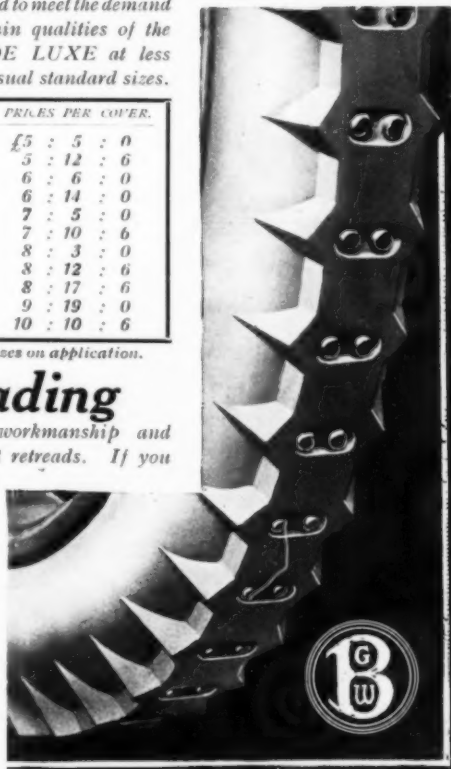
Quotations for other sizes on application.

Retreading

Beldam quality in workmanship and
materials gives perfect retreads. If you
send to us your tyres
(of any make) for re-
treading and repairs
we will send you an
estimate of cost by
return. We guarantee
prompt delivery and
complete satisfaction.

Write for Beldam booklet.

**The Beldam
Tyre Co., Ltd.,**
Barnet, Middx.

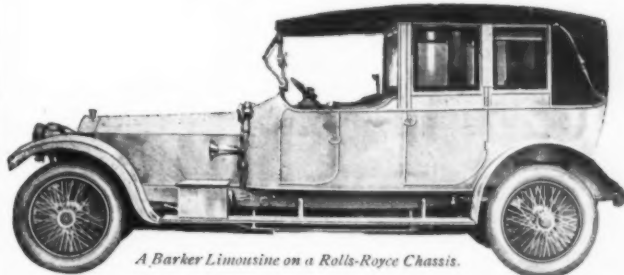


Rolls-Royce Chassis BARKER BODIES

At the Olympia Motor Show

Barker Stand No. 145

Rolls-Royce Stand No. 52



A Barker Limousine on a Rolls-Royce Chassis.

*Acknowledged a perfect combination and
the World's Best Car.*

*Nearly 100 of these high-grade cars can
always be seen being fitted with Barker
Bodies to order at our London Works.
Complete cars for early delivery.*

BARKER & CO. (Coachbuilders) LTD.

London Retailers and Body Specialists for Rolls-Royce Cars,
COACHBUILDERS TO H.M. THE KING.

66-68, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.

COLE

Coachwork Of Luxurious Elegance

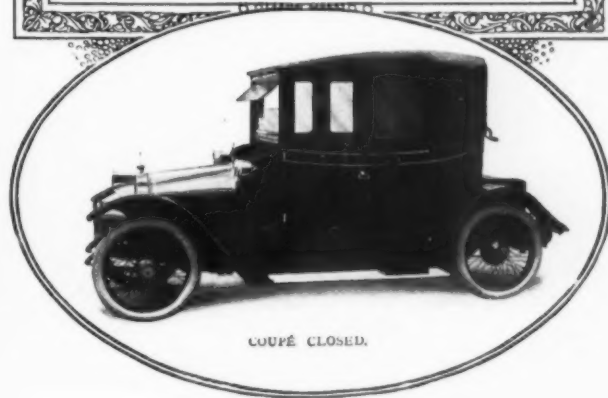
"Coachwork by Cole"

"Coachwork by Cole" instantly occurs in the mind
when a car is remarked fitted with a body of handsome
design and the occupants seated in easy comfort.
Such is the name of Cole coupled with bodywork of quality; and
this distinctiveness is represented to a greater degree in our
COUPE CABRIOLET. It seats four very comfortably and
yet possesses the graceful appearance of a cosy 2-seater. For
owner-drivers and professional men this body is especially suitable.

Agents for
VAUXHALL, VALVELESS,
MORS and SAVA CARS.

WM. COLE & SONS, LTD.,

92, High Street, Kensington; 235, Hammersmith Road, W.
Phones—West ern 833. Hammersmith 1413.



COUPE CLOSED.

THE PRICE OF THE FAMOUS 12 H.P. ROVER

REMAINS AT

Complete **£350** Complete

BUT INCLUDES AS STANDARD FOR 1914

12 - VOLT LIGHTING SET

Six inch longer chassis and body
for tall drivers optional. Ventilators
in dash, etc., etc.

Full particulars on request.

PROMPT DELIVERY.

The Rover Co., Ltd., Coventry

AND AT

59-61, New Oxford Street, London, W.

The Car for any Weather



The "MORGAN" NEW PATENT
Cabrio-Landaulette
FITTED TO THE ADLER CHASSIS

The pleasure of a Town drive or a Country Tour is often marred by sudden changes in the elements. A start in fair weather may be unexpectedly followed by a storm; keen, biting winds may be encountered, or even a change from warmth to cold. All such inconveniences can be easily overcome by using this notable car.

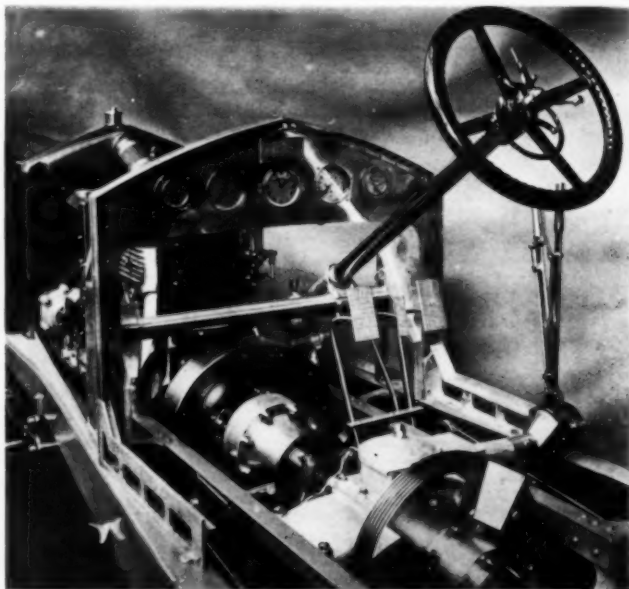
Instantly convertible into either a
fully open, half-open or entirely
closed Car.

MORGAN & Co., Ltd.,
127, Long Acre, W.C.; 10, Old Bond Street, W.

the stopping and the starting of the engine being 37hr. 3min. On the first day the starter failed twice, the cause being a faulty cell in the battery, a celluloid separator between two of the plates having been accidentally omitted. At the end of the road trial the engine was revolved by the starter continuously for 6min. 21sec. After a rest of 14min. the test was repeated, when the starter revolved the engine for a further 58sec. before failing from lack of current. The engine was cold during these tests, and the maximum speed attained by the engine was sixty-six revolutions per minute. The set of five lamps, which between them absorbed a current of 6.7 amperes, were kept alight throughout the road trial, i.e., for 66hr. 17min., which included 15hr. 35min. during which the car was at rest with engine stopped. At the conclusion of the trial and after the electric starter had been used to run the engine, the side, dash and tail lamps were lit in the motor-house for twenty hours. The trial seems to have proved conclusively the efficiency and reliability of the Cadillac electric installation, which evidently does all that is claimed for it, even when tested almost to destruction.

AN INTERESTING PETROL SUBSTITUTE.

For many years past—in fact, ever since it first became evident that the internal combustion engine had come to stay—efforts, some desultory, others well directed, have been made to discover a suitable fuel to take the place of light petroleum spirit. In quite a number of cases a certain degree of success has rewarded the efforts of investigators, but in almost every instance the employment of the substitute has been rendered commercially impossible owing to the excessively high cost of the raw material, to the foul-



30 H.P. SHEFFIELD-SIMPLEX.

ing effect of the fuel in the engine, or to a decrease in the efficiency of the motor. Concerning the majority of petrol substitutes which have hitherto been brought to the notice of the public, very little reliable information has been obtainable; but in the case of the latest fuel introduced, which goes by the name of Economine, we are more fortunate in this respect. Some weeks ago a 15 h.p. Straker-Squire was entered for an official test under the observation of the R.A.C., the trial consisting of 2,000 miles' running, half the distance being covered with petrol and half with Economine in the fuel tank. The Club's certificate of performance in connection with this test justifies us in hoping that in Economine has at last been discovered a really satisfactory substitute for petrol. From the published report we find that speed on the flat and hill-climbing capacity were a shade better with Economine than with petrol, and that the two fuels were used with the same carburettor setting. It is also exceedingly interesting to note that at the conclusion of the 1,000 miles' run on Economine there was scarcely more than half as much carbon deposit in the combustion chamber as at the end of a similar distance performed with ordinary petrol. This is a feature of which the importance can scarcely be exaggerated, for hitherto one of the principal obstacles in the way of alternative fuels has been their tendency to carbonise.

Economine, which, we understand, is soon to be produced in very large quantities near London, is composed, as to 80 per cent., of ordinary commercial paraffin, the remaining 20 per cent. being an admixture of ingredients, of which the



Belgravia BODIES

SUPERB
FINISH



DELIVERY
TO
TIME



LATEST
DESIGNS

"Nothing better made."

STAND
No. 162.
Olympia,
Nov. 7th



INSIDE DRIVE LIMOUSINE.

The London Improved Motor Coachbuilders, Ltd.
149, LUPUS STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

Telephone:
3543 VICTORIA.

Largest and Best Equipped Works in London.

Telegrams:
"MOTORCRAT, LONDON."

THE BRIGHT, WHITE,
LIGHT THAT DOMINATES
THE NIGHT—**C.A.V.**

IT is not enough to specify "an electric lighting set" for your car—you must insist on the **C.A.V.**

Because the **C.A.V.** Electric Lighting System for cars—the pioneer of British Electric Lighting Systems—is the proved best.

The consistency of the demand shows that this system owes its success to its own merits.

Blue Book, Post Free
C.A.V. ANDREWS & CO.,
Warple Way, Acton,
London, W.

READ

The **Motor**

TORPEDO and FLUSH-SIDED

MOTOR BODIES

LIMOUSINES and
LANDAULETTES
HOODS AND SCREENS.

E. & H. HORA, Ltd.
38-39, PECKHAM RD., LONDON, S.E.

and Branches.
Telegrams: "Linchpin, London."
Telephone: 3780 Hop 2 lines.



Largest Motor Works in London.

On view at
OLYMPIA—STAND 86

Panhard

AN entirely new model possessing Panhard historic reliability combined with the most advanced developments in motor construction.

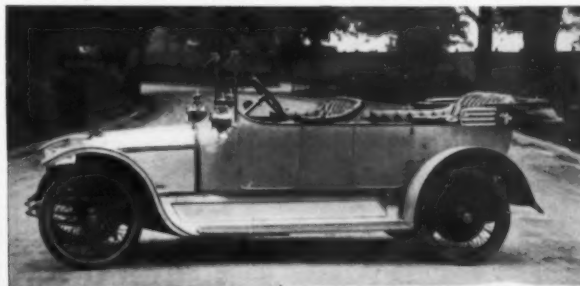
12 h.p. FOUR SPEEDS FORWARD AND GATE CHANGE **£395**
complete as illustrated, with hood, screen & 5 lamps.

UNQUESTIONABLY the finest value inside or outside **OLYMPIA**.

TRIALS ARRANGED. FULL PARTICULARS ON REQUEST.

W. & G. DU CROS, Ltd., 14, REGENT ST., LONDON, S.W.

Offices & Works: Acton Vale, W.
Telegrams: "Voiturante, London." Telephone: Chiswick 800 (10 lines).



C.D.C.

"A Truly Wonderful BALL for FLIGHT"



PRICE
2/-

Supplied in brambled marking. Full size standard floating and small heavy. Made by RUBASTIC, LIMITED, "The Home of the Golf Ball Industry," 14-15, Cockspur Street, London, S.W.

is the opinion of hundreds of golfers who have quickly found that they can get a greater length with the "Chancellor" than any other golf ball.

The "Chancellor" Golf Ball is the best value ever offered in a 2/- ball. Not only will it give you a longer drive, but will also ensure accurate putting. Golfers should make a special point of trying this wonderful ball. Of all professionals & sports dealers.

The "Chancellor"

GOLF BALL

"The proof of the Ball is in the playing."

The Only Car Left

after you have carefully sifted them all out.

PEUGEOT

The Car that has beaten the whole world in open competition in both hemispheres.

The same Genius that evolved this successful Racing Car is responsible for the design of our Pleasure Models, 6 h.p. to 40-50 h.p.

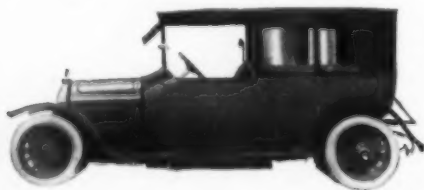
Catalogue free.

STAND 32 OLYMPIA

Peugeot (England), Ltd.

10, Brompton Road, London, S.W.

'Grams: "Peugeot, London." 'Phons: 871 Kensington.



C. D. C.

precise character is not divulged. When mixed together the paraffin and other constituents are distilled, and Economin spirit results. A lengthy series of experiments with this fuel has already been carried out on the Continent, with conspicuous success, and at the present time well-known analysts in this country are engaged in investigating the inventor's claims. So far as these investigations have gone, they may be regarded as satisfactory from the point of view of those who wish to obtain a cheaper fuel, and already it has been established that during the processes of mixture and subsequent distillation the paraffin undergoes some curious chemical change, which radically alters its nature and removes the unpleasant characteristics which have hitherto militated against its general employment in connection with high-speed internal combustion engines. If, as is alleged, really low-grade paraffin oil is suitable for the production of Economin, it would seem that there need be no fear of a shortage of the principal raw material. Those responsible for the introduction of the new fuel into this country state that there is no difficulty in starting the engine on it, even in cold weather, and that the products of combustion do not produce any ill-effect so far as cylinders, pistons and valves are concerned. The chance of establishing a petrol substitute firmly naturally depends very largely on the price at which it is offered to the public, and we hope that the company which is to be floated for the production of Economin will bear this point in mind.

A COMBINED GROOVED AND STUDDED TIRE.

The Sirdar Rubber Company have introduced a combined grooved and studded cover, which has been passed by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police as an effective non-skid tire. An S-shaped groove is moulded longitudinally in the tread, and in the groove is fixed a single row of steel studs. It is claimed that this arrangement combines the respective advantages of the grooved and steel-studded tread, and gives about 50 per cent. greater mileage than the ordinary studded cover at an increase of cost of only 10 per cent. The tread appears to be as flexible as ordinary rubber, and the new tire does not require the high degree of inflation usually employed with a steel-studded cover.

ITEMS.

The King has again given his patronage to the Olympia Exhibition. Among the vice-patrons are the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Derby, Lord Lonsdale, Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Sir John French and Earl Fitzwilliam.

The Ford Motor Company have decided not to exhibit at the Olympia Show, having come to the conclusion that Olympia has ceased to be a convenient place of sale or a stimulant to business.

The Palmer Tire Company announce considerable reductions in the prices of their famous cord tires, to take effect from October 17th last.

Messrs. Seemann and Stones, Limited, of 39, St. James' Street, W., who sell most of the leading makes of cars, and deal largely in the Sheffield-Simplex and Rolls-Royce, inform us that they make a speciality of taking customers' cars in part exchange for new ones.

One of the three-litre Peugeot cars which competed in the Coupe de l'Auto has achieved some new records at Brooklands in the 16 h.p. R.A.C. rating and E classes. The flying half-mile was covered at a speed of 106.19 miles, the mile at 105.36 miles and the ten laps with a standing start at 100.68 miles per hour.

At Brooklands an 11 h.p. Humber has broken all records in Class B, covering the flying half-mile at 83.53 miles per hour, and the flying mile at 82.1 miles per hour.

Messrs. Brown Brothers are placing on the market a set of special tools for removing carbon deposit from the piston heads and combustion chamber walls of an engine without removing the cylinders. The tools, which are sold in a convenient canvas case, are of ingenious design, which permits of the interior of the cylinders being easily reached through the valve cover openings.

ON Monday evening the old morality play, "Everyman," was performed at Battersea Town Hall by an enthusiastic and highly capable cast of amateurs under the direction of Miss Joan Haydon-Waugh. The funds of the Waifs and Strays Society should receive a considerable addition as the result of the fine performance. It was indeed creditable to compel the attention of the large audience in a none-too-suitable environment. Mr. Havelock Collins' interpretation of the name part was a triumph, but we would suggest, if it be repeated, as in the sacred name of charity we very much hope will be the case, that a simpler costume, or, even one more simple in colour, would allow a fuller appreciation of his skilful rendering of a difficult rôle.



NEW SIRDAR
NON-SKID COVER.



THE NATURAL FOOD OF GAME BIRDS.

UNDER this heading we published in our issue of March 4th, 1911, an article by Mr. A. E. Howard, and at a time when the food of the pheasant has been brought into some prominence it may be as well to quote what such an authority has to say on the subject. "The bulk of the food of all game-birds, or gallinaceous birds, consists of grain or seeds. But, like most of the larger and more active birds, they are also carnivorous as well as graminivorous. As regards their daily diet, much depends upon the season of the year and the character of the vegetation of a district. The pheasant is one of the more widely distributed game-birds in England, and we may thus commence with its bill of fare as one of the most comprehensive. Being better known, perhaps, than most of the other game-birds, its food bill will be an index to a great extent to that of the others. Pheasants are given to ranging pretty widely from the home coverts. They are fond of meadows, where they find the bulbs of species of buttercup in clayey soil and damp woods. Along the hedgerows they pick up berries of the hawthorn, mountain ash, or guelder rose, the latter especially down the sides of streams, which they are fond of visiting. By the roadside the birds find food in the roots of the common silver weed, which fringes the hard macadam, where it picks up grit. Along the hedges the berries of the elder and blackberries provide a good feast towards the autumn. Hidden beneath the foliage of the other hedgerow plants, in or near the loam, is the hemp-nettle, another favourite item, and in the damp hollows near the hazel-woods there are seeds of cow-wheat and seeds of different kinds of knot-grass and bind-weed. In and around the stackyard it picks up various kinds of grain—in addition to that laid down by the keepers—such as buck-wheat, rape, lentils, peas, while here and in the stubbles it finds oats, wheat, barley and other cereals, and in addition to these all kinds of grass seeds are devoured with alacrity.

"So much for plant-food. But the pheasant is, though admittedly a luxury and kept as such, even beneficial, for it feeds on animal food, insects, etc. And where the wireworm abounds the pheasant may confidently be expected to do much good by devouring immense numbers of them. It also lives on other insects, such as flies, spiders, grasshoppers, beetles and the May-bug; indeed, all kinds of insects are included in the pheasant's menu."

THE PHEASANT A GLUTTON FOR INSECTS.

It will be noticed that no mention is made of the turnip or the mangold, and further the *Scottish Naturalist* of November, 1912, reported that the crop of a young cock pheasant, shot in Argyllshire and submitted for examination to Mr. Percy H. Grimshaw, F.R.S.E., proved to contain, with vegetable remains, some two thousand eight hundred insects.

KEEPING UP AN ESTABLISHED PARTRIDGE SHOOT.

DOUBTLESS there is a special interest attaching to the work of the keeper or tenant or owner of a partridge shoot when he has to work it up from a state of neglect in which there are but a few scattered pairs of birds on the ground, till it comes to carrying as many as the extent can accommodate. At the same time there must also be much satisfaction of rather a different kind for him who comes to an estate where all is in best of order and his attention is directed to seeing that it so continues. Vermin, especially rats, and the travelling stoats, always have to be watched and dealt with by such means as were mentioned more fully when considering the work demanded of the keeper coming to a neglected estate, and there is vigilance required to check the increase and the forays of the winged enemies of the game. Hedgehogs must be dealt with, and there is the vexed question of the rabbit stock (depending in its turn on whether there are foxes on the ground) which has to be considered and action to be taken according to the answer given to it. But the toil of this man in his vermin-killing will be light in comparison with that of him who comes where there has been little or no vermin-killing hitherto, so we may pass it over lightly and come to a note or two on his work when the birds have begun their

nesting. We will presume that he has a fair stock left, say a pair of birds to every eight acres if the soil be light, but a rather larger proportion if it be heavy and unfriendly to game. It is well to have made, in the estate office itself, if there be enough artistic leisure for the work, or by a lithographer, reducing the scale from the estate map, a number of outlined small maps showing fields and hedges, of which each beater should be given a copy of the portion which marks out the area of his own operations. The purpose of these maps is that the keeper should mark on them the sites of all the partridge nests that he finds, giving each its own number, which shall correspond with the numbering of the pages in a book in which he should keep the account of all that happens in each nest from day to day, the number of eggs laid, the date on which the bird begins to sit, any disaster that may occur, and as many of the various changes as he may be able to note. The nests should be looked at every day. It is not necessary to inspect them too closely. There is a time, when the partridge uncovers her eggs, at which she is very tetchy about their being interfered with in any way. When she is really broody she will allow herself to be lifted bodily off the nest and replaced again without making protest.

If any of the nests are made in a very exposed place indeed, say quite close to a roadway, where dogs are almost sure to get at the parent sooner or later, even if human hands do not molest her, it is better to break up the domestic peace of the birds at once. That will mean that they are likely to make another and a safer nest elsewhere and to bring up a small brood of late chicks. That is not the kind of family that you specially want, but it is better than no family at all; and the latter would have been, nearly certainly, the result of leaving the nest in the evil place first chosen. The above is heroic counsel, only to be followed in an extreme case of danger to the nest. Where a nest is in a risky situation, but not so perilous as that last supposed, it is better to minimise the risk by removing the eggs, as they are laid, and restoring them to the sitting parent when they are about to hatch out. Of course, you must keep her amused in the meantime by giving her dummies to sit on. The dummies may be hard-boiled infertile eggs of a former year, or may be of composition, for there are several kinds of composition eggs now on the market on which partridges will sit patiently enough, though the imitation has to be far more exact than it need be when you are supplying the same kind of illusion for your pheasants. With regard to the eggs which you take out of the nest, you may dispose of them in various ways. It is not often that a partridge will lay as many eggs as she is able to brood, and she will not resent it if you put one or two extra eggs from another nest into hers. For although she is so careful a mother, she does not seem to keep careful account of numbers. So you may put these eggs into nests in safer situations and leave them to be hatched by the partridge foster-mother and the chicks brought up with her own. Or, again, you may place them in an incubator, or under a barn-yard hen, in either of the latter cases taking them back to one of the brooders on the dummy partridge eggs when the chicks chip the shell. By this means you reduce the risk by diminishing the time of danger from the whole period of incubation to the comparatively few hours between the chipping of the shell and the leading off of the young covey. The risk to the dummy eggs may be left out of the count as inappreciable. It is not in the least necessary to be particular about putting the chipped eggs under a mother who has sat the full length of the incubation time. If she has sat for about a week, it seems to suffice for the satisfaction of her natural instinct for that passive occupation, and whatever her surprise may be to find the chicks coming out in about a third of the time that she had reason to expect, she accepts the situation with philosophy and applies herself to their needs as cheerfully as if she had sat on them for the full period ordained by Nature. In a fox-hunting country none of the means for keeping those pernicious but sacred "varmints" from the nests must be neglected, whether by dint of smelly stuffs put about the nests, or a wall of wire netting. In a country where the rooks make a habit of hunting for the nests their movements should be watched, for they, like the kestrel and many other

BY ROYAL
APPOINTMENTTO
H.M. THE KING.


MAWERS




COMPLETE

HOUSE FURNISHING



Reproduction of a
Sheraton Cabinet
£9 : 15 : 0

Individuality

 Quality




*A Room can be
 furnished complete
 with
 Tudor, Jacobean,
 or Old
 English Mahogany
 Furniture
 of our own making,
 bearing
 no discoverable
 indication
 of Modernity.*

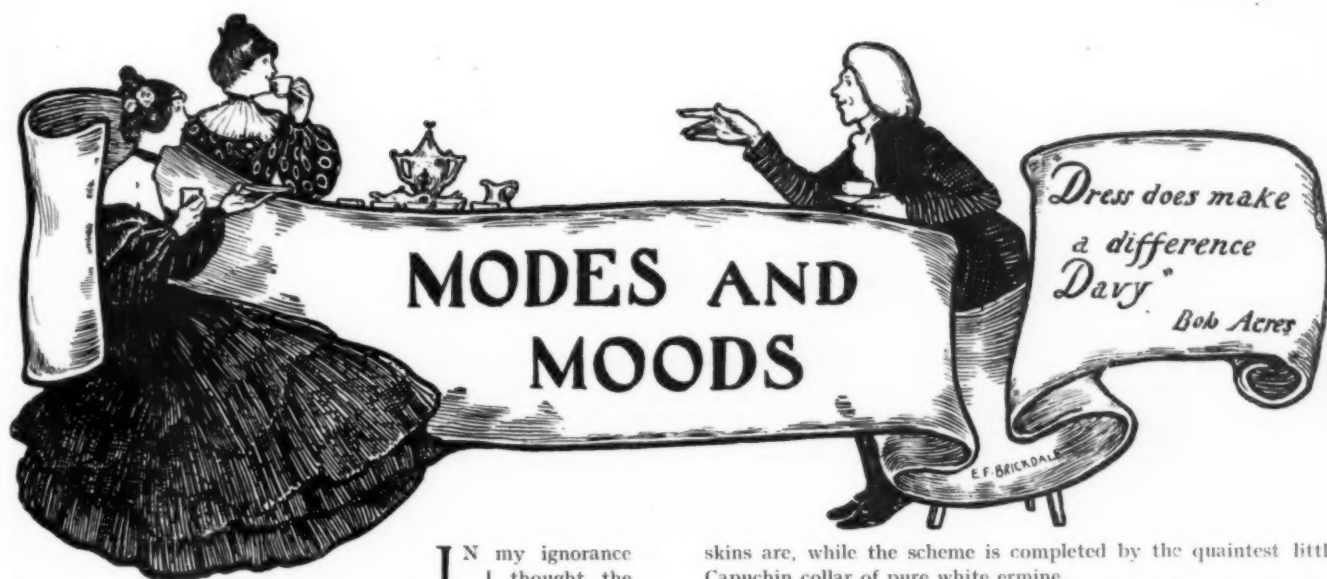
MAWERS **Ld.**
FULHAM ROAD
 SOUTH KENSINGTON
LONDON, S.W.

birds, have a diurnal round, or rounds, which they repeat with much punctuality, and if you notice a pair of rooks, or others of the corvine kind, hunting certain fields one day, you may often, by setting a man in hiding with a gun, bag them on the next. When you take your eggs from the partridges' nests and place them under hens, it is not at all necessary that the hens should be peculiarly small ones. This used to be the general idea, and silkies and bantams were selected with care, and often with a great deal of difficulty in getting them in the right "broody" condition. Of course, a small and light parent would be an advantage if she was intended to have care of the chicks when they came out. But this is not the idea. She is to be an incubator, only, and the bigger she is the more eggs she can keep warm. Therefore, a large hen is better than a small one.

Now after the keeper has his young birds out in the world, he is really not able to do a great deal more for them for a while. He is nearly sure, in fact, to lose sight of them, and to a large extent their welfare is speculative until the time of corn-cutting, which is like the lifting of the curtain behind which their life drama has been played. Out here, on the stubble, he should be able to give a very good account of the coveys, and to this end should be furnished with a pair of field-glasses, a gift which it will well repay the master to place by virtue of the better information which it will enable the keeper to report to him. But there is a very anxious time, say in August, in a year of drought. The partridges will suffer a good deal from the drought itself, but what appears to be much worse for them is their habit, at these thirsty times, of drinking out of any roadside puddle or nasty stagnant water that they can find. This, in the opinion of many, is the main cause of their death in very dry years. It is possible for the keeper to diminish the evil arising from this source by giving the birds fresh water to drink, placing the pans in gateways, gaps in fences and the like places where the birds resort, and where they will be likely to find the pans. There are pans specially made for this purpose, so that small birds cannot get into them to bathe, and so foul them, and their use is to be recommended in preference to any open vessel.

Now, we will suppose that the birds have thus been brought from the egg and are full grown. October has come (there will be little shooting in September, the first legal month), and the next set of problems in the keeper's year is the bringing of the birds to the guns. That is a set which is too long and varied to be undertaken here. It must be left over. But while the continued welfare of the stock is the first consideration, it is necessary that some thought should be taken that old birds shall, if possible, be shot rather than young. There is not a very great deal to be done in this way, but constantly driving has helped in getting the old ones killed first, because they are first in coming to the gun; but it is said on high authority that a good method of getting at your old birds is to keep driving hard at the same lot of birds on a hot day fairly early in the season, for then the young birds tire and lie close and do not come on before the beaters, leaving only the old ones for the guns to shoot. After the driving is done, the keeper, when out with his gun after crippled or pricked birds, may do something in reducing the old birds, if too large a proportion is left. On the whole, however, their proportion, by the nesting-time of the next year, is chiefly at the disposition of chance and of Nature, though of course, no means should be omitted which may tend to make the proportion such as is best for future prospects. As to what that proportion may be, it is best expressed by saying "The more young birds the better." As for the number that should be left over for breeding stock, that has already been indicated, in a rough and ready way, as a brace of birds for each eight acres of light soil, and a brace and a-quarter—that is, say, at the rate of a brace and a-quarter—per eight acres of heavy soil.

There is one precaution which the keeper should take long before shooting begins; in fact, as soon as ever the corn is cut—and that is to well "bush" the stubbles in order to stop poachers at night dragging their nets along and catching birds at roost on the stubble and grass fields. Thorn bushes are the best, catching in the meshes of the nets; and, so far as the shooting interest is concerned, a "rolling bush"—that is to say, a free bush, not stuck fixedly into the ground—is almost best, as it is said to entangle the net more hopelessly, rolling itself upon it as it goes, but in this matter the farmer should be consulted. A very deadly form of "bush" is a tangle of barbed wire. At every turn of the game and at every moment of the year, the virtue of being on good terms with the farming tenant comes into evidence. If by friendship or persuasion you can persuade him to keep a certain field for a year longer under cereal crop than his views or the rotation of crops question would strictly require, it may make a vast difference in the possible arrangements for your driving and the consequent bag.



IN my ignorance
I thought the
last word

possible had been written on furs in our issue of the 18th inst. But on visiting the Arctic Fur Store, Chepstow Place, W., I was quickly disillusioned. These people are truly wonderful. Not content with bringing out what is admittedly the most exquisite illustrated catalogue conceivable, they continue to add fresh models constantly to the already record supply, every single one whereof is exclusive. One of the latest designs we were fortunate enough to commandeer for a sketch, which reveals a supremely elegant mantle of very fine quality black caracul. The draperies are so subtly achieved, they seem to arrive out of nothing, while the handsome collar of dark brown fisher fur is arranged to roll over at the back with a decidedly outstanding movement. The sleeves, modelled in one, just bell a trifle at the base, and the weight of the garment throughout is of a lightness that is absolutely incredible. There is a certain caracul cloth being sold, very excellent in its way, but the weight is just double that of the very fine caracul pelt used by the Arctic Fur Store firm, the proprietors of which, it is an open secret, are Bradley's, Limited. And from these redoubtable authorities I have it direct that brown fur used as a trimming on black fur is one of the most fashionable foibles. Another adorable expression in these delicate caracul skins to be seen in these seasons is a coat and skirt. The former is an extremely short, freely fitting affair arranged in kimono style, the fulness at the waist drawn into a band that in front is sloped up short, and at the back takes a longer line where the fur is actually knotted to form a sash. The latter treatment will show how malleable these

skins are, while the scheme is completed by the quaintest little Capuchin collar of pure white ermine.

The authorities at the Arctic Fur Store frankly admit to being in advance of, rather than behind, the times, and doubtless for this reason are sometimes accused of being extreme. But whichever way you look at it, this is the acme of wisdom. For the *vraie élégante* nothing less than the last note is possible, and how much

better for the woman who only indulges in a fur wrap every two or three years to be able to strike the balance during that period between the modish and the ultra modish. Natural furs have been a fetish here for several years now, and the choice is, in consequence, of the most exhaustive character. Two pelts strongly advised for smart, moderately priced sets of stole and muff are sea fox and racoon. The latter is particularly becoming, being rich and dark in tone, whereas the delicacy of the sea fox strikes quite a fresh note, while for those who can afford to indulge in something entirely out of the common and possess more than one set, there is a Spanish wild cat. As the name implies, this has tiger markings, an exceedingly wide stole and curious bag-shaped muff; it is depicted on page 32 of the illustrated brochure. Side by side with a natural Alaska red fox set, the picture faithfully portrays one of the barbaric ways in which these skins are worn. Sometimes they will be swung at the back, the head falling over one shoulder and the tail over the other, a disposal that provides no sort of protection to the throat.

A propos of furs in connection with children. The prejudice has died hard, but it has now finally evaporated that peltry wraps are altogether wrong for restless young limbs. There was, however, good reason for the objection in days when little more was done to



SEEN AT THE ARCTIC FUR STORE.

skins than a process of rough curing, to render them in any way suitable and possible for personal wear. Warmth and weight were then regarded as inseparable, whereas now the weight of such furs as grey squirrel, mole and white coney is scarcely as appreciable as many friezes and nap cloths. Tiny children look adorable in white coney coats, accompanied by quaint little bonnets to match enlivened by smart ribbon choux and strings; while for older girls these jolly white wraps are ideal for party and pantomime wear, completed by one of the pretty and becoming Swiss hoods. Coney, which, as all the world knows at this date, is rabbit of a particular kind and quality, is nowadays so wondrously treated that one can most readily forgive its lowly origin; its value is so immeasurably enhanced that even fastidious adults do not scorn it for evening wear. To return, however, to the text of children. During



A CHARMING GOWN BY MADAME BARRI.

the past two winters it has been quite permissible for girls from ten years and upwards to wear coats of seal-musquash, although, in my opinion, grey squirrel is infinitely younger in appearance and really more attractive. Grey Persian lamb, again, is quite children's wear. And this pelt, by the way, is particularly nice for trimming purposes. Nothing looks smarter than a grey nap cloth coat, with collar and cuffs of grey lamb, completed by a little Tam o' Shanter of grey velvet set within a band of the fur. It is generally conceded by all who have personally gone into the matter that it is far healthier for children to wear fur outside than in. Fur-lined coats are quite a mistake for young people; in fact, we have Nature's own showing that the right place for fur is outside

Dress in Paris is proceeding on lines that will certainly take the average Englishwoman some time to assimilate. At this stage it is decidedly bizarre, although the eye craving for classic effects will be thoroughly satisfied. From the shoulders to below the hips there is kept a perfectly straight line, with never a scintillation of waist. In fact, the waistless figure is *de rigueur*, and, to show that there is no nonsense about it, corsetières have entered the arena with a corset fitted with a busk that is deliberately curved outwards just below the waist. The chief influence at work is Persian, inaugurated by the short, outstanding tunic. This is directly responsible for the outstanding *mouvement*, that is contrived by an infinity of subtle means, known, however, only to the sartorial adepts. And on this are based hysterical rumours anent the return of the crinoline. Personally, I fail to find the slightest connection between the two—the one hails from almost primeval ages, whereas the other has invariably marked periods of history singularly lacking in artistic grace. An insistent feature on gowns and coats is the deep draped sash. That, of course, is essentially classical, and serves to bring about the requisite symmetry. We have by no manner of means exhausted the services of the sash, notwithstanding its very general appearance during the summer. Practically every new model revealed to me during the past week has boasted a sash of sorts.

My second picture this week relates to a gown designed and executed by Mme. Barri, 72, Baker Street, W. The model which is known as the "Shepherdess," is carried out in an adorable *fraise* shade of *souple moire*, with the very prettiest corsage of ivory Breton net, the edges finished with the tiniest picot, completed by bretelles of the *moire*. The whole scheme is worthy of the closest study, since there is nothing that directly testifies to the end in view, nothing, indeed, it is epitome of elegance. The drapery of the skirt is particularly graceful and effective as is likewise the square cut front, supplemented by a vest of shadow lace and outlined by a narrow *plissé* frill. It is all thought out with that consummate care for which Mme. Barri is so well famed. Who in the world is able to tell of that secret method of expansion, which is arranged with such perfect truth that it never interferes with the original symmetry of the design? In a very deep and wide sense indeed has Mme. Barri made a study of *ligne*, with the result that she knows to a nicety, at a glance, moreover, the needs of each individual figure.

I saw a coat and skirt there the other day, devised for a tall, rather big client, that was a veritable triumph. The coat hung in a perfectly straight line from the shoulders, and in so doing fell in with one of the very latest decrees, while the fronts buttoned low down in double breast fashion. For the trimming of her coats Mme. Barri is using the most fascinating old Chinese embroideries, which she *appliqués* on to the cloth. All manner of sources are requisitioned for these broderies, and they are so representative of the artistic vein that prevails here.

Another dear little house-gown model is fashioned of *crêpe de Chine*, the corsage completed by a flat box pleat basque and set on to the yoke to accentuate a clear-cut shoulder-line, a regular "Bubbles" frill of *plissé* ivory net outlining the *décolleté* throat. The new type of long, loose-fitting waistcoats are proving a valuable asset to the cause Mme. Barri has so much at heart. A coat that recalls the period of Louis Quinze boasts a deep basque, great pocket flaps, and one of these long waistcoats, and is in every way a most alluring garment.

Naturally, the real basis of these clever creations is the corsets. And here, as goes without saying, Mme. Barri excels. Her models, all exclusive and specially thought out, are marvels of ingenuity, and while advising silk tricot for assured comfort and wear, she has a very hearty word of praise for a silk batiste that she is able to bring out at 2½ guineas. Her belts are likewise accorded the best appreciation, many women electing to wear these in preference to corsets, completed, when necessary, by little *brassières*. However, Mme. Barri's word as to what to wear and what to avoid may be accepted unconditionally. She has taken up a quite unique rôle, and the fact that it was a want seriously needed finds ample testimony in the constant *va-et-vient* that goes on at 72, Baker Street, W.

Layettes, furthermore, are a big feature here. These comprise garments of the daintiest order, that are, at the same time, thoroughly up to date; while what may be almost termed a sporting offer is made by Mme. Barri of supplying a single garment of each kind for 5 guineas inclusive. Or, if preferred, the several items can be had separately. A very helpful guide is provided in an illustrated booklet, a fresh edition of which has just been issued, and which, together with one devoted to the subject of layettes, can be had for the asking on application to the establishment in Baker Street, W.

L. M. M.

HARRODS

RIDING HABIT
AND
BREECHES MAKERS

Patterns and Measurement
Forms on application.

Carriage Paid in
United Kingdom.

Orders by Post
carefully executed



Ladies Ride Astride Habit, from £6 10 6. The Shirt is most adaptable,
being perfect in the saddle, and on foot. Suitable also for Tropical Wear.

HARRODS Ltd. By Special Appointment to H.M. the Queen. LONDON, S.W. RICHARD BURBIDGE, Managing Director.

HITCHINGS' LD

Baby Carriage Manufacturers

By Appointment to

H.M. The King of Spain.



London

329-331,
Oxford Street
45,
Knightsbridge

Liverpool

74, Bold Street

Manchester

69, Deansgate

Glasgow

184,
Sauchiehall St.

The "Princess Margaret" Car, from **Six Guineas**.

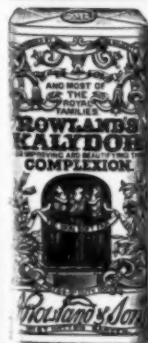
A smart car of distinctive registered design, Coach-built by Hitchings. Constructed of sound well-seasoned wood of the very best quality. The moveable foot-tray can be fitted with special drop-end extension (to order) providing additional length for the reclining position.

Further particulars and Complete Catalogue sent on receipt of name and address.

To Look your Best TAKE CARE OF YOUR HAIR AND USE ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL



which will preserve, nourish, strengthen it, and replace the loss of the natural oil in the Hair, the want of which causes Baldness. Golden Colour for Fair Hair, sold in 3/6, 7/-, 10/6 and 21/- bottles, by Stores, Chemists, Hairdressers, and ROWLANDS, 67, Hatton Garden, London. Avoid cheap, spurious imitations under the same or similar name.



Rowlands' Kalydor

For the Skin is extracted from exoties of the mildest and most Balsamic Nature. Operating as a powerful cleanser of the Skin, it speedily removes all Freckles, Tan, Redness, Irritation, and other cutaneous defects, makes the complexion beautifully clear and healthy, and imparts a Delicate Softness to the Face, Neck, Hands, and Arms, which cannot be obtained by the use of any other similar preparation. Sold in 2/3, 4/6 and 8/6 bottles, by Stores, Chemists, and A. ROWLAND and SONS, 67, Hatton Garden, London.

TOPAS PEARLS

Rubies, Sapphires and Emeralds are acknowledged by experts to be the most perfect replicas of the genuine. They possess and retain for all time their exquisite sheen, and wonderful lustre, and are mounted with real diamonds in gold and platinum.



Beautiful
Topas Pearl
Necklet with
18-carat
gold clasp,
£4 : 0 : 0

Real Diamond
Clasps with a
Topas Pearl,
Ruby,
Sapphire, or
Emerald
Centre, from
£2 : 2 : 0

TOPAS, 38, OLD BOND ST.,
LONDON, W.

SOME RECENT NOVELS.

SHORT STORIES BY "Q."

A FULL measure and of rare vintage Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch has given to us in his last volume of tales, *News from the Duchy* (Arrowsmith). And so heady is it that the reviewer scarce knows where to begin, for, like the famous wine of Mont-Bazillac of which he tells, the humour is so pleasantly intoxicating that all sense of proportion between story and story is lost, and, indeed, each is a little masterpiece. If we were asked to quote an example of the perfect short story we would choose "Our Lady of Gwithian." Simple as an idyll of Theocritus, and as perfect in its kind is this tale founded on the old belief that the Piskies, or Fairy Folk, would snatch unchristened children to join their band, as they themselves are babes who died unchristened. Each character stands out in sharp focus, from Lovey Bussow: "her neighbours agreed there was little amiss . . . if you overlooked her being a bit weak in the head. They set her down as 'not exactly,'" to Meriden the priest, who dwelt in a hut among the sandhills, a bowshot beyond St. Gwithian's Chapel, and at once left off barking his nets on hearing of Lovey's errand, and only stayed to fill a bottle with holy water to christen her child. Our Lady of Gwithian, invoked by Lovey after the child had been stolen, is just as well drawn as the rest, somewhat slow perhaps, indeed, unresponsive, at first to Lovey's prayer of "Deer Aun' Mary, the Piskies have taken my cheeld! You d' know what that means to a poor female—you there, cuddlin' your liddle Jesus in the crook o' your arm. An' you d' know 'ikewise what these Piskies be like; spiteful li'l toads, same as you or I might be if happen we'd died unchristened an' hadn' no share in heaven nor hell nor middle-earth. But that's no excuse. Aun' Mary, my dear, I want my cheeld back!" And she got it, too; but we must leave Sir Arthur to relate the drastic steps that she took to wake Aun' Mary to a proper sense of her responsibilities. The end, however, is irresistible: "Lovey—standing very demure, and smoothing her apron down along her thighs—confessed that she had laid her trouble before Our Lady. 'A miracle, then!' exclaimed his Reverence. 'What height! What depth!' 'That's of it,' agreed Lovey. 'An' b'lieve me, your Reverence, we mothers understand wan another.'" But some will choose out one tale and some another as the best of them all; perhaps one is inclined to choose the tale first read, because its magic is freshest; but a very good case could be made for "Pipes in Arcady," the story of what "Land's End ought to be but is not"; the gaiety and the whimsical humour of it come back, and one laughs each time one remembers. There is a deep mystery in "Not Here, O Apollo!" and we learn that the Duchy is not unknown to the elder gods; while the pathos of "Pilot Matthey's Christmas" gains not a little from the extreme reticence and simplicity of the narrative. As we have said, the book is crammed with good things, things of laughter for the most part, and all leave a very pleasant taste in the mouth; so good are they that few will be content to read them once. Not the least interesting portions of the book are the seven sketches of a personal nature which conclude it. That man would be an exceedingly violent partisan who could not appreciate and sympathise with the reflections contained in "The Election Count"; and one of the best signs of the growing temperance and broad-mindedness of the nation is the increase of the same tolerant spirit that animates Sir Arthur. It is not long since the lack of a blind devotion to one or other of the two Parties was looked upon as an intellectual crime. "Priam's Cellars," "On a Marble Stair" and "If?" strike an even more intimate note. Sir Arthur is too modest; if "Sketches" be what he himself has christened them, they are essays in Middleton's sense of that somewhat ill-used term, for they are the leisurely revelations of his own personality, and are therefore of the same nature as the essays of Lamb and Montaigne. We hope Sir Arthur will see fit to give us more of them.

No Place Like Home, by John Trevena. (Constable and Co.)

IN *No Place Like Home* Mr. John Trevena has, obviously, written with a purpose. Underlying his whimsical humour there is a seriousness that gradually gains a strong hold upon the reader, in spite of the curious impression of unreality attaching to the whole tale. This sense of unreality may be due to the stilted speech of his characters, or to the author's manner of setting his men and women dancing in something like the manner of a showman bent on providing diverting entertainment at all costs. The tale is set in Devon. To the home of Joseph Prior, a kind of throw-back to less civilised times, comes David Byrne, a poet of Irish extraction with whom Prior's young daughter has corresponded, claiming kinship. Prior is an egoist, a bully and a coward; he is a hated landlord to boot. With certain ideals before him Byrne sets to work to shame the older man into providing better housing for his tenants, and there follows a tale bristling with absurdities which the Puck-like humour of the author cannot resist, and yet impressive in its own singular fashion. For out of a medley of somewhat tiresome romanticism there eventually emerges a clever comparison of Irish character and superstition against West Country idiosyncrasies. With the character of Byrne it is impossible to have sympathy; in particular, his conversation is wearisome and inflated, and the exaggeration of type has all the outstanding defects of too pronounced caricature. Yet the novel is a striking one, and Mr. Trevena, in spite of unattractive mannerisms, has an individual style both forcible and dramatic.

The Gentle Lover, by Forrest Reid. (Edward Arnold.)

"THE GENTLE LOVER" is a comedy of middle age. When Bennet Allingham falls in with the Grimshaws, mother, daughter and son, at Bruges, where he is indulging in some desultory paiting, it is simple enough to predict that the placid, elderly traveller is to come under the spell of feminine youth. There is a fourth person in the Grimshaw party, Sophy Kilronan, the elderly, practical, far-seeing Aunt Sophy of the two young people's mild rebellion, and quite the most well-drawn character in the book. Aunt Sophy is mildly in love with Bennet Allingham, whom she has known in her girlhood's days, and for whom she has retained for twenty-nine years a certain unchangeable regard. In a smooth and slow-moving tale, where age lays not too insistent siege to youth, we see this strong-minded, tender-hearted spinster stand by without attempt at coercion, while the misguided Allingham makes his bid for an unsuitable prize. With a certain kindly humour and some subtlety the position is unfolded

to us, the while we are uncertain as to its ultimate issue in hands that sacrifice nothing to convention. Then gradually the obvious way out for our middle-aged pair opens up for us, the question of Sylvie's love affair sinks into insignificance and Sophy herself, with the frank absence of false pride which is characteristic of her, steps in to make up Allingham's mind for him, since he cannot make it up for himself. It is a story with an attractive atmosphere, written with a quiet distinction and in a sympathetic manner.

The Coryston Family, by Mrs. Humphry Ward. (Smith, Elder and Co.)

MRS. HUMPHRY WARD is a writer who is much more concerned with the development of situations than of characters. In *The Coryston Family* we are launched into a family imbroglio of far-reaching importance, in which, so diverse are the opinions of its several members, so determined their allegiance to those opinions, speculation upon possible consequences opens up illimitable vistas of contentions ahead. On these contentions the novel hangs; from them Mrs. Humphry Ward, in ambush, attacks us on the Land Question, on Socialism, on the Suffrage and on many another point of political interest. We are harried in the van and in the rear; and so hard are we at getting at her tactics, the love-story, designed as a kind of martial music, only occasionally reaches our ears and very infrequently our attention. *The Coryston Family* is not a novel; it is the medium through which an author of clever intellect and wide experience propounds political puzzles. We are not going to say we do not enjoy them; they are extremely interesting, sometimes intriguing. But we cannot be expected to wax enthusiastic over such characterisation as gives us the Edward Newburys and Marcia Corystons here depicted. Stilted and unreal in action and conversation, this pair of lovers strike almost an absurd note. However, as has been said, it is not by her characterisation that Mrs. Humphry Ward holds our attention.

The Victims, by George Willoughby. (W. Heinemann.)

THE author of this novel would appear to be sophisticated but inexperienced. Clever as the novel is, it pictures only one side of life, and that not so usual a one that there is not every opportunity for her—for we think it is a woman who writes—to over-emphasise her points unconsciously. Bianca Harlow is not a consistent character; the talk of the young artistic set into which she is thrown is very young; her affair with Ralph Powis has elements of the absurd, and her seduction by Carson is improbable if our conception of Bianca be a true one. Yet there is beneath much that is overwrought and extravagant, a suggestion that the author has artistic feeling and some dramatic ability; and, though the style is crude, it does not lack a definite impression that the writer has brought discrimination to her choice of language, and will probably do something much better than *The Victims*.

The Perfect Wife, by Joseph Keating. (William Heinemann.)

THE true spirit of comedy sports at will in *The Perfect Wife*. Here a well-meaning, somewhat easy-going and certainly misguided young husband allows himself to be persuaded in a weak moment to part with five hundred pounds to a young woman of his pre-matrimonial intimate acquaintance. An acquaintance that had led Hattie Deverill to suppose, in its delicate indecisiveness, that at least if he were not intended to marry herself neither was it probable he would marry another. Roddy Carlish and Hattie Deverill, in this, had not reckoned with chance which, inconsequently, brings the charming Julie upon the scene; and almost immediately after Julie and Carlish are married, with the result that within three months of this Hattie is snowed up with bills which the presumption that she was to marry the wealthy Carlish enabled her to run up. In remembrance of old days Carlish promises Hattie five hundred pounds, and receives from her a grateful kiss which Julie, unhappily, witnesses. Trouble follows as a matter of course, and, once set afoot, brings in its train one catastrophe after another. With a light satirical touch and the gayest of manners, Mr. Joseph Keating starts the mischief, spreading until the little pleasure-loving group of moderns, darting here and there in pursuit of false clues, eventually is brought to its bearings by the thinnest of devices. Mr. Keating is to be congratulated upon a successful piece of work of the most delicate and satirical humour.

Before The Dawn, by Katherine James. (Chapman and Hall.)

THOUGH framed in an attractive setting, *Before the Dawn* as it develops betrays a disappointing absence of originality. The time is that of fifty years ago, the place Rome. Philip Sinclair, a young Englishman of prepossessing appearance and manner, becoming acquainted with Leone Marigi and his cousin Monica Erskine, falls in love with the latter. Sinclair, who, out of an incredible magnanimity, has since youth taken upon his own shoulders the onus of the dishonourable peccadilloes of his elder brother Ronald—their mother's favourite son—approaches Monica under a cloud. In the story that follows he takes sides with Garibaldi, accepts the "Red shirt" and the captaincy of a company, and acquires himself in such wise as to merit the commendations of his lady, while the extraordinary likeness between the brothers Sinclair is put to time-honoured use in creating misunderstandings between the lovers. The story is a thoughtful one. It introduces Mazzini and Garibaldi, and gives some interesting accounts of the turbulent days in which they were concerned, so making more than a passing claim on the reader's attention and indulgence which the improbability of the hero's escapades has somewhat estranged.

By Reef and Palm and The Ebbing of the Tide, by Louis Becke (T. Fisher Unwin.)

INTO this volume is gathered a collection of stories of the South Sea Islands. Mr. Louis Becke is not at any pains to spare us the horrors of the life he depicts, but, at the same time, he does not unduly dwell upon them, and for this reason, though some of the incidents are terrible, there is no exception to be taken to his treatment of them. Crude as some of the tales are, there is the impress of reality on them; native customs, superstitions and outlook are brought home to us with the assurance of one who knows his people intimately, and who can spin a straightforward yarn. For the most part it is the loves of the

SMITH, ELDER & Co.'s LIST.

Mrs. WARD'S NEW NOVEL.

CROWN 8vo. 6s.

THE CORYSTON FAMILY.

By Mrs. HUMPHRY WARD, Author of "The Case of Richard Meynell," "The Mating of Lydia," etc.

Daily Telegraph.—"About the best story its author has ever written. A most touching, eloquent, and intensely human story."

Globe.—"In the perfection of its technique, in its naturalness and sincerity, and its searching analysis, 'The Coryston Family' may be regarded as her finest effort."

Pall Mall Gazette.—"Mrs. Ward has never written anything better. For a galloping, topical story of wide appeal, it would be very hard to beat. It has all the qualities that make for a wide and legitimate popularity."

Westminster Gazette.—"Mrs. Ward's extremely well arranged and steadily sustained story. A novel wide in scope, vigilant and eager, and above all, savoury and gay."

The Western Rebellion of 1549. An Account of the Insurrections in Devonshire and Cornwall against religious innovations in the Reign of Edward VI. By Mrs. FRANCES ROSE-TROUP, F.R.Hist.S. With Illustrations. Demy 8vo., 14s. net.

KATHARINE TYNAN'S REMINISCENCES.

Twenty-Five Years. By KATHARINE TYNAN HINKSON. With a Portrait. Demy 8vo. 10s. 6d. net.

The South African Scene. By VIOLET R. MARKHAM. Author of "South Africa, Past and Present," etc. Demy 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

Old Standards: South Country Sketches. By JOHN HALSHAM, Author of "Idlehurst," "Lonewood Corner," etc. Crown 8vo. 5s. net.

Labour, Life, and Literature. Memories of Sixty Years. By FREDERICK ROGERS. With a Portrait. Large Post 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

The New Schoolmaster. By FOURTH FORM. Large Post 8vo. 6s. net.

Ready October 30th.

The Austrian Officer at Work and at Play. By DOROTHEA GERARD (Madame Lougar de Lougarde). With a Frontispiece. Large Post 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

The Railways of Great Britain. By LORD MONKSWELL, D.L., Author of "French Railways," etc. With Illustrations. Demy 8vo. 6s. net.

LONDON: SMITH, ELDER & CO., 15, Waterloo Place, S.W.

"The most important biography of recent years."—THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

THE LIFE OF HENRY

LABOUCHERE

By ALGAR LABOUCHERE THOROLD

With a Frontispiece in Photogravure. Medium 8vo. 10/- net.

"To review the book in any real sense is impossible. All that can be done is to give the reader some sense of the variety and liveliness of the narrative, of the importance of much of it (for it throws new light on some of the most famous political episodes of the time), of the picture it gives of a character singularly attractive and sincere, and then urge him to make the acquaintance of the book itself as quickly as may be. It is the most important biography of recent years."

—THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

CONSTABLE'S 6/- NOVELS

Ready Nov. 8th.

HAGAR

MARY JOHNSTON

Author of "The Old Dominion," etc.

THE JUDGMENT OF THE SWORD

Ready Oct. 29th.

MAUD DIVER

Author of "Capt. Desmond, V.C.," etc.

V.V.'s EYES

By THE AUTHOR OF

"QUEED"

4th Impression Nearly Ready.

"As delightful, as patient, as human as 'Queed'."—THE OBSERVER.

—THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

THE DREAM SHIP By CYNTHIA STOCKLEY

Author of "Poppy," "The Claw," etc. (2nd Impression)

"A strong and finely-written study. The heroine is a delightful and most lovable creature . . . admirably imagined and described."—THE OBSERVER.

PITY THE POOR BLIND (2nd Impression in demand)

By the Author of "The Corner of Harley St."

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

John Trevena

Author of "Sleeping Waters," "Furze the Cruel."

OTHERWISE PHYLLIS

Meredith Nicholson

Author of "The House of a Thousand Candles," etc.

LONDON

BLACKWOODS' NEW BOOKS

A BOOK FOR ALL LOVERS OF HORSES.

The Shetland Pony

By CHARLES and ANNE DOUGLAS.

WITH AN APPENDIX ON

The Making of the Shetland Pony.

By J. COSSAR EWART.

With Gravure and other Illustrations. Small 4to. 10s. 6d. net.

The Silent India Being Tales and Sketches of the Masses.

By Lieut.-Col. S. J. THOMSON, C.I.E., I.M.S. With Illustrations. 10s. 6d. net.

"This is a book which was very much wanted. . . . The atmosphere the ways and thoughts of its inhabitants are brought before the reader with really extraordinary skill, and one seems almost to be present in the flesh."—*Globe*.

"Well informed, well written, and unfailingly interesting. A very real and significant picture of contemporary Indian Life."—*Daily Telegraph*.

The Winepress. A Tale of War. By ALFRED NOYES.

4s. 6d. net.

NEW 6s. NOVELS.

Happy-Go-Lucky. By IAN HAY, Author of "A Safety Match," "A Man's Man," etc.

"A continual delight."—*The Times*.

"Delightfully amusing."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

"The very best sort of holiday reading imaginable."—*Observer*.

"Delightfully entertaining . . . a veritable feast of fun."—*Daily Telegraph*.

Writ in Water. By SIDNEY C. GRIER, Author of "The Keepers of the Gate," "One Crowded Hour," etc. With Illustrations by ALFRED PEARSE.

"Admirably written. . . . Brilliantly told."—*The Times*.

The Mercenary. A Tale of the Thirty Years' War. By W. J. ECCOTT, Author of "The Background," "The Second City," etc.

Scenes from a Subaltern's Life. By C. L. GILSON.

Thakur Pertab Singh. And other Tales. By Sir CHARLES CROSTHWAITE.

The Pomanders. By ARTHUR FETTERLESS, Author of "The Career of Kembole," "Willie in the Isle of Man (and After)."

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD & SONS, Edinburgh and London.

From Mr. EDWARD ARNOLD'S List.

The Corinthian Yachtsman's Handbook.

By FRANCIS B. COOKE. With numerous Illustrations. 10s. 6d. net.

LORD LYONS.

A Record of British Diplomacy.

By the Right Hon. LORD NEWTON. With Portraits. In Two Vols., 30s. net.

LIFE and LETTERS of GEORGE VILLIERS,

4th EARL OF CLARENDON.

By the Right Hon. SIR HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart. Two Vols., 30s. net.

SIR FREDERICK COWEN'S REMINISCENCES.

MY ART AND MY FRIENDS.

By SIR F. H. COWEN. One Vol., 10s. 6d. net.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND. His Early Life and Times, 1721-1748. By the Hon. EVAN CHARTERIS. 12s. 6d. net.

THIRTY YEARS IN KASHMIR. By ARTHUR NEVE, F.R.C.S.

With Illustrations and a Map. Demy 8vo. 12s. 6d. net.

A CIVIL SERVANT IN BURMA. By SIR HERBERT THIRKELL

WHITE, K.C.I.E. With Illustrations. 8vo. 12s. 6d. net.

SPORT AND FOLK-LORE IN THE HIMALAYA. By Captain

H. L. HAUGHTON (36th Sikh). With Illustrations from the

Author's Photographs. Demy 8vo. 12s. 6d. net.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A PENINSULAR VETERAN. By the late

Lieut.-Col. JOSEPH ANDERSON, C.B., K.H. 10s. 6d. net.

MEMORIES OF A SOLDIER'S LIFE. By Major-General Sir H. M.

BENGOUGH, K.C.B. 8vo. 8s. 6d. net.

By the Author of "Ruthless Rhymes for Heartless Homes."

THE MOTLEY MUSE. By HARRY GRAHAM.

With Illustrations by Lewis Baumer. 3s. 6d. net.

LONDON: EDWARD ARNOLD, 41 & 43, Maddox St., W.

MACMILLAN & CO.'S NEW BOOKS.

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS SERIES. NEW VOL.
Highways and Byways in the Border. By ANDREW LANG and JOHN LANG. With Illustrations by HUGH THOMSON. Extra Crown 8vo. Gilt top. **5s. net.**

A Leisurely Tour in England. By JAMES JOHN HISSEY. Author of "The Charm of the Road," etc. With 34 Illustrations from Photographs taken by the Author, and a Map 8vo. **10s. net.**

The Outlook:-"A very pleasant and entertaining book."

RUDYARD KIPLING.
Songs from Books. By RUDYARD KIPLING. Uniform with Poetical Works. Crown 8vo. **6s.** Pocket Edition. Fcap 8vo. Cloth, **4s. 6d. net.** Limp Leather, **5s. net.** Edition de Luxe (limited to 1,000 copies), 8vo. **10s. 6d. net.**

Author's Annotated Edition
The Works of Tennyson. With Notes by the Author. Edited with Memoir by HALLAM, LORD TENNYSON. With Portrait. Extra Crown 8vo. **10s. 6d. net.**

RABINDRANATH TAGORE.
The Gardener. LYRICS OF LOVE and LIFE. By RABINDRANATH TAGORE. Author of "Gitanjali." With Portrait. Crown 8vo. **4s. 6d. net.**

The Life of Florence Nightingale. By SIR EDWARD COOK. With Photogravure Portraits. 2 vols. 8vo. **30s. net.**

Jane Austen. By F. WARRE CORNISH, late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. Crown 8vo. **2s. net.** (*English Men of Letters.* *The Times*):-"The mark of this little book is its quiet and sober fidelity to the truth. Mr. Cornish has read, marked, and delighted in all that there is to read... Jane Austen herself, we feel, would have delighted in what he has done for her."

WARWICK GOBLE'S NEW COLOUR BOOK.
The Fairy Book. The best popular Fairy Stories Selected and rendered anew by the Author of "John Halifax, Gentleman." With 32 Illustrations in Colour by Warwick Goble. Crown 4to. **15s. net.**

THOMAS HARDY.
A Changed Man, The Waiting Supper, and other Tales, concluding with The Romantic Adventures of a Milkmaid. By THOMAS HARDY. Extra Crown 8vo. **6s. net.**

H. G. WELLS'S New Novel

The Passionate Friends. **6s.**
MAURICE HEWLETT'S New Novel

Bendish: A Study in Prodigality. **6s.**
JAMES STEPHENS'S New Book

Here are Ladies. By JAMES STEPHENS. Author of "The Crock of Gold." Crown 8vo. **5s. net.**

* * * Mainly a collection of character sketches abounding with rich Irish humour.

MACMILLAN & CO., LTD., LONDON.

Mr. HEINEMANN'S NEW BOOKS.

Splendid Illustrated Autumn List will be sent on application to Dept 35, 21, Bedford Street, London, W.C.

EMINENT FIGURES IN FRENCH HISTORY.

The DUCHESSE DE CHEVREUSE By LOUIS BATTIFOL. Each volume illustrated. Large Demy 8vo. **10s. net.**

MIRABEAU By LOUIS BARTHOU, Premier of France

MY FATHER; Personal and Spiritual Reminiscences. By E. W. STEAD. Illustrated. Demy 8vo. **10s. net.** (2nd Impre.)

FIFTY CARICATURES By MAX BEERBOHM. Small crown 4to. **6s. net.**

APHRODITE and other Poems By JOHN HELSTON. Demy 8vo. **6s. net.** (Oct. 30th.)

The DAFFODIL FIELDS By JOHN MASEFIELD. Crown 8vo. **3s. 6d. net.**

A CONFEDERATE GIRL'S DIARY A diary of the American Civil War. Demy 8vo. **6s. net.**

The Booklover's Edition with portraits. Demy 8vo. **7s. 6d. net.** (Oct. 28th.)

FATHER AND SON By EDMUND GOSSE, C.B., LL.D.

The ADVENTURES of AKBAR A book for Children. By F. A. STEEL. Illustrated by Byam Shaw. Sq. cr. 8vo. **6s. net.**

LIGHTSHIPS AND LIGHTHOUSES By F. A. TALBOT. With nearly 100 Plates. Demy 8vo. **6s. net.**

ART IN SPAIN and PORTUGAL (Ars Una Series) By MARCEL DIEULAFOY. With 600 Illustrations. Crown 8vo. **6s. net.**

FRENCH COLOUR PRINTS IN THE XVIII. CENTURY; 50 Plates in colour and an Introduction by MALCOLM C. SALAMAN. Demy 4to. **£2 2s. net.** (Oct. 28th.)

LOUIS XVI. FURNITURE Introduction by S. de Ricci. 500 Plates. Demy 4to. **25s. net.**

LATEST 6/- NOVELS.

The MILKY WAY (Published this week)

F. TENNYSON JESSE

The PERFECT WIFE J. KEATING

The TRUTH ABOUT CAMILLA GERTRUDE HALL

DIANA AND TWO SYMPHONIES FRANCIS TOYE

LIBBY ANN S. K. CASEY

MARRYING OF HESTER RAINSBROOK J. A. REVERMORT

Note.—Mr. Hall Caine's great novel, "The Woman Thou Savest Me," is now in its 170th thousand. This is a record in two months.

The DARK FLOWER JOHN GALSWORTHY

INDISCRETIONS OF DR. CARSTAIRS

The VICTIMS G. WILLOUGHBY

SET TO PARTNERS Mrs. HENRY DUDENEY

The GARDEN WITHOUT WALLS CONINGSBY DAWSON

islanders that provide the author with material, the complications that ensue where white mates with brown, the call of the blood in the half-breed; but it is possible many will read the book much more for the vividness and sureness of its descriptions than for such other attractions as it may possess.

Captain Corbeau's Adventure, by Mrs. Hugh Fraser and Hugh Fraser. (Hutchinson.)

CAPTAIN CORBEAU'S adventure is slight; it takes place in that period of want which closely followed upon the golden plenty of the Regency, and is the outcome of the gallant captain's desire to secure himself against destitution. The tale opens in Paris, where for twenty louis d'or Corbeau allows himself to become the tool of a scheming hag, in whom an outward piety is the cloak for cruelty inconceivable. The authors are at great pains to work up the situation, which is a highly sensational one, and they at times succeed in casting a nightmare horror over Madame, the prime mover in the story's plot. This horror is, however, considerably discounted by unexpected descents to the commonplace and trivial, and also by the extreme modernity of the turns of expression used by the characters. As a matter of fact, the tale, a short one, is practically a light thing, thrown off casually, and lending itself to as casual a reading, and as such will, no doubt, fill the place for which it was designed.

The Strictly Trained Mother, by F. F. Montrésor. (John Murray.) DECIDEDLY interesting, *The Strictly Trained Mother* attempts to deal out justice on both sides. Mrs. Betterton, shy, silent, a little apprehensive of the attentions of her two devoted daughters—both estimable young women of the strong-minded order—demands our sympathies from the first. With every care lavished upon her, she is yet a slave to the traditional type of useless ornamental old age the Misses Betterton would have her believe herself to be. Carefully guarded from discomfort and shut out from all worries, Mrs. Betterton at length is driven to the extreme step of evading her determined gaoles and casting in her lot with the husband and daughter of her third child, whose disastrous marriage with a clever Bohemian forbade her her parent's home. Ellen is dead, but Polly, her child, of whom the grandmother has had some knowledge in a belated acquaintance, welcomes the old lady with impulsive delight. It is a far cry from Prince's Gate to a little house in the country with one maid; but Grandmamma bears it well after the unexpected plunge has been made, though Polly, as time passes, wonders a little how long the visit is to last. It might have lasted much longer than it did had not Miss Betterton fallen ill, and Grandmamma, with old-world punctilio, at once hastened to her daughter's bedside, and there remained, re-assuming the authority so long denied her and glorying with quiet dignity over her re-instatement. Slight though the story is, the characters are sketched in most admirably, and with real humour and tenderness.

The Secret City, by Joseph J. Doke. (Hodder and Stoughton.)

THIS is an engrossing tale of lost treasure and a wandering tribe. When Justin Retief, of Dutch and Irish descent, at the story's opening, tells of his discovery of hidden treasure in the form of a pewter urn in which secret papers are enclosed, we feel a familiar thrill of expectancy, and are not at all surprised when a story in manuscript rewards the finder. That manuscript is passed on to us, with every appearance of good faith in its authenticity to add to our enjoyment of the tale it discloses, a tale closely akin to "King Solomon's Mines" in style and attraction, though petering out somewhat towards its end, as the romance mentioned cannot be said to have done. The hero of the story is one Paul Retief, a wanderer, who, after spending four years following big game, learning the habits of the natives and adding to his knowledge of the country, calls a halt at a farm in the Karroo, and while there shows mercy to a young Bushman of the pigmies who had been brutally used by the manager of the farm, James Castello, a Spaniard. This tribe of pigmy Bushmen to which the injured man belongs owns for its chief a mysterious individual named Ummisi, who as a child was stolen from his English parents and brought up among his captors. He figures to a certain extent in Paul Retief's adventures as a kind of unseen fate guarding the treasure which Paul Retief loses in the end. It is an exciting tale and thoroughly wholesome.

The Dominant Passion, by Marguerite Bryant. (Hutchinson and Co.)

IN *The Dominant Passion* there are four geniuses. It is rather an unwieldy burden this, and several times we feel sure Mrs. Marguerite Bryant is feeling its weight an embarrassment to progress. Still, she eventually manages to rid herself of her self-imposed task with sufficient credit to attract the reader who likes a story with some sound stuff in it. That sound stuff is not to be found in the delineation of the character of the artist, Andrea; for, to tell the truth, he rings false throughout, in spite of the fact that considerable care has gone to his making. It is in a quiet and interested observance of everyday life that Mrs. Bryant finds her best inspiration; her conversations are natural when she allows herself to forget to live up to her geniuses who are, really, quite nice average people wrongly labelled by their creator. When we have taken their labels off, we are happy in their acquaintance. There is much that is thoughtful in the book, which is long, but not wearisome; the author has not scamped her work, and she has, obviously, brought no little consideration to an over-ambitious intention which, if it has fallen short of its goal, has yet attained some measure of success in other directions.

Rob Roy: The Story of a Stag, by Captain Theodore Tharp. (Hodder and Stoughton.)

ARRESTS attention by reason of the novel style of illustration, Human figures, horses, hounds and stags are portrayed in silhouette with fidelity and spirit, and no mean skill is displayed in suggesting landscape by the same simple means. A prefatory note informs us that each design is cut with a fine pen or scissors from a single piece of paper without preliminary drawing, save a few rough pencil lines in one or two of the more elaborate pictures. These silhouettes therefore prove remarkable delicacy of hand, directed by an accurate eye for outline.

Messrs. Methuen will send to any applicant their List of New Books. It is full of good things.

THE NOVELS OF THE YEAR

THE REGENT

By ARNOLD BENNETT

Third Edition

Crown 8vo. 6s.

THE WAY OF AMBITION	Robert Hichens
THE JUDGMENT HOUSE	Sir Gilbert Parker
THE REGENT	Arnold Bennett
THE GOVERNOR OF ENGLAND	Marjorie Bowen
THE TWO KISSES	Oliver Onions
THE LODGER	Mrs. Belloc Lowndes
THE MORNING'S WAR	C. E. Montague
THE WHITE THREAD	Robert Halifax
TIDE MARKS	Margaret Westrup
SHALLOWS	Frederick Watson
MISS NOBODY	Ethel Carnie
BELOW STAIRS	Mrs. A. Sidgwick
THE REMINGTON SENTENCE	W. Pett Ridge
THE SECOND-CLASS PASSENGER	Perceval Gibbon
THE ROMANCE OF A FEW DAYS	Putnam Weale
SANDY MARRIED	Dorothea Conyers
THE HARROVIANS	Arnold Lunn

METHUEN & CO., LTD., 36, Essex Street, London, W.C.

With Forty-one Portraits, 7/6 net.

By A. G. GARDINER,

PILLARS OF SOCIETY

"The book is excellent, most readable, most suggestive, most just and most true."—Sir W. Robertson Nicoll in the "British Weekly."
"This shrewd, witty, penetrating book."—"Westminster Gazette."

Demy 8vo. With six photogravure portraits. 15/- net.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK: A MEMOIR.

"Nothing could be more delicate than the manner in which the tragic element in the Empress Frederick's life is brought out in this memoir."—*Times*.
"A deeply interesting and convincing study."—*Daily Telegraph*.
"Free from all suspicion of whitewash."—*Morning Post*.
"A narrative of exceptional interest."—*Spectator*."

Shortly

Royal 8vo. With many illustrations, some hitherto unpublished, in colour and black and white. 15/- net. Limited edition, demy 4to of 175 copies. 32/- net.

PHIZ AND DICKENS.

By EDGAR BROWNE

The name of Hablot K. Browne ("Phiz") will always remain intimately associated with that of the great author whose best-known illustrator he was. This volume, written by his son, contains much new matter of the highest interest.

Write for New Illustrated Autumn Announcement List.

NISBET & CO., 22, BERNERS STREET, W.

Now Ready A Book of Great Value to all Gardeners.

THE HARDY FLOWER BOOK

By E. H. JENKINS (A Member of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society)

With 50 Illustrations and Beautiful Coloured Frontispiece.

Large 8vo, Cloth. Price 2/6 net, by post 4d. extra.

It is confidently claimed that this book is a complete and trustworthy guide to all who are desirous of adding to their knowledge of the best means of planting and cultivating Hardy Flowers.

Mr. E. H. JENKINS is a recognised authority on all kinds of Hardy Plants, and has devoted his whole life to a study of their requirements. His aim throughout has been to furnish practical instruction in clear and simple language, and to supply the information in such a manner that by its use a discerning reader may be able to materially add to the attractiveness and beauty of his garden.

An illustrated prospectus of this book and a catalogue of all the notable books in the "Country Life" Library will be sent free on application.

Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

Stanley Paul's New List

THE QUEENS OF ARAGON, Their Lives and Times By E. L. MIRON. Illustrated, 16/- net.

THE ROMANCE OF AN ELDERLY POET A hitherto unknown chapter in the life of George Crabbe, revealed by his ten years' correspondence with Elizabeth Charter, 1815-1825. By A. M. BROADLEY and WALTER JERROLD. Demy 8vo, with photogravure frontispiece and half-tone illustrations on art paper, 16/6 net.

TORQUEMADA and the SPANISH INQUISITION By RAFAEL SABATINI. Author of "The Life of Cesare Borgia," "The Strelling Saint," &c. Demy 8vo, fully illustrated, 16/- net. (Second Edition.)

MAXIMILIAN the DREAMER: Holy Roman Emperor, 1459-1519 By CHRISTOPHER HARR. Demy 8vo, illustrated with photogravure plates, 12/6 net.

FAMOUS ARTISTS AND THEIR MODELS By Dr. ANGELO S. RAPPOPORT. Author of "Love Affairs of the Vatican," &c. Demy 8vo, illustrated, 16/- net.

A VAGABOND COURTIER From the Memoirs and Letters of Baron von Pollnitz. By EDITH E. CUTHELL. Author of "An Imperial Victim," &c. Demy 8vo, 2 vols., fully illustrated, 24/- net.

THE CORNISH COASTS AND MOORS By A. G. FOLLITT-STOKES. Demy 8vo, maps and 150 illustrations, printed on art paper, cloth, gilt, 5/- net. Recognised as the standard work.

THE ABC OF COLLECTING OLD CONTINENTAL POTTERY By J. F. BLACKER. In large crown 8vo. With over 250 illustrations in half-tone and line. Cloth, 5/- net.

THE ABC OF ENGLISH CERAMIC ART By J. F. BLACKER. With coloured frontispiece and over 1,000 illustrations in half-tone and line. Large crown 8vo. Cloth, 5/- net. Published originally at 10/6 net under the title of "Nineteenth Century English Ceramic Art."

Stanley Paul's Latest Novels

Crown 8vo, 6/- each.

THE PIT OF CORRUPTION

THE PAINTED LADY

LOVE TIDES

THE WATERED GARDEN 2nd Edition

YOUTH WILL BE SERVED 2nd Edition

THE WINDS OF GOD

THE EYES OF ALICIA

QUADRILLE COURT

A WIFE OUT OF EGYPT 2nd Edition

HUNT THE SLIPPER 2nd Edition

THE HONOUR OF THE CLINTONS 3rd Edition

CASSERLEY'S WIFE

BLACK HONEY

THE CAREER OF BEAUTY DARLING 12th Edition, 2/- net

THE RIDING MASTER 7th Edition, 1/- net

A BABE IN BOHEMIA 12th Edition, 1/- net

Winifred Graham
Arabella Kenney
Captain Frank Shaw
Mrs. Stepmay Rawson
Dolf Wyllarde
Hamilton Drummond
Charles E. Pearce
Cecil Adair
Norma Lorimer
Oliver Madox-Hueffer
Archibald Marshall
Esther Miller
G. Ranger Gull
Dolf Wyllarde
Dolf Wyllarde
Frank Danby

STANLEY PAUL & CO., 31 ESSEX STREET, LONDON.

BOOKS for SPORTSMEN

From JOHN LONG'S LIST

PHEASANTS: IN COVERT AND AVIARY

By FRANK TOWNEND BARTON, M.R.C.V.S. With 4 magnificent Coloured Plates from life by GRONVOLD, and numerous other illustrations from Photographs. Crown 4to, 10s. 6d. net.

Shooting Times says: "May fairly become recognised as a STANDARD WORK."
(Special Prospectus, with Coloured Plate, Post Free.)

PONIES, AND ALL ABOUT THEM

By FRANK TOWNEND BARTON, M.R.C.V.S. With numerous illustrations from Photographs. Demy 8vo, 7s. 6d. net.

TERRIERS: THEIR POINTS AND MANAGEMENT

By FRANK TOWNEND BARTON, M.R.C.V.S. With upwards of 40 illustrations from Photographs on Art paper. Crown 8vo, cloth gilt, 5s. net.

HOUNDS

By FRANK TOWNEND BARTON, M.R.C.V.S. With 37 illustrations from Photographs. Crown 8vo, 5s. net.

GUN DOGS

By FRANK TOWNEND BARTON, M.R.C.V.S. With 46 illustrations from Photographs. Crown 8vo, 5s. net.

GOLF FOR THE LATE BEGINNER

By HENRY HUGHES (One of Them). With 32 illustrations from Photographs specially taken for the work. Foolscap 8vo, 1s. net.

World of Golf says: "Every stroke and club are carefully explained. An excellent shillingsworth."



A NOVEL FOR SPORTSMEN

A FORTUNE AT STAKE

By NAT GOULD 6/-.

Hitherto Mr. Nat Gould's stories have been produced in paper covers. "A Fortune at Stake," which is new, is the first of his Novels to be issued in the regulation 6s. form. It is obtainable at all Libraries.

The Tatler says: "A rattling good yarn."

Write for Descriptive Catalogue of New and Forthcoming Books, post free.
JOHN LONG Ltd., 12, 13, & 14, NORRIS ST., HAYMARKET, LONDON

OE'R FIELD AND FURROW.

A FIVE HOURS' HUNT WITH THE DEVON AND SOMERSET.

THERE was a big stag belling fiercely by Dulverton Town the night after the venison feast, a sign that the season is drawing to a close. Already the followers of Captain Amory's Hounds had told us how two stags fought in the very presence of the pack and refused to run far. Stag-hunting is, in fact, over as I write; but the greatest run of this or many seasons must be recorded. The stag which had been belling so fiercely in Warcleave was a twelve-pointer, the harbinger reported. This, however, was not the hero of the great run, but another and younger stag from the same covert which took up the running, for while one hound hunted the big stag, the pack at 12.30 were laid on to the other, and the great chase of the season of 1913 began. The line taken was an unusual one, being right across the West Somerset country from King's Brompton to within four miles of Taunton. As the crow flies, from Warcleave to the finish is a sixteen-mile point; as hounds went, a tracing on the map makes the distance covered not less than twenty-four miles; for the horses, probably rather more, because it was not possible to ride to hounds; to keep touch with them was as much as could be hoped. There was a quite extraordinary scent, for the stag made great use of his opportunities. An enclosed country, such as much of the line took us over (there are beech-crowned banks, narrow lanes and overgrown fences), hinders hounds more than they do a stag. I have seen a stag stride from one field to another, the intervening obstacle being a narrow lane guarded by two high banks with growth on the top. It may give an idea of the nature of the scent when I say that at one time the stag was quite an hour ahead of the pack, yet they could always hunt. The chase began with great dash, hounds fairly driving forward, though with but little music after the first burst. Every hound has the scent, and every other hound knows the rest have it in stag-hunting. Why, then, should they waste their breath on needless speech? So they pressed on in silence. After a time, as the stag increased the distance between himself and his pursuers, the pace slackened, but we were obliged to press our horses at times to make up for bad turns or periods when hounds were (as not seldom happened) running in places inaccessible to us. With various fortunes the run went on. Now a handy gate,

and then a fortunate turn, enabled the followers to see the hounds moving along, hunting on, always working forward with that curious intent, inevitable savagery which is so characteristic of hounds on the foil of a deer. At last, by the side of a stream, crouched in a reed bed, they came on their stag, and then came a wild four-mile rush almost in view till the stag stood at the railway wire fence near Bishops Lydeard. This was at 5.30, so the chase had lasted five hours, the start and finish fast, the whole at a fair hunting pace.

CAPPING.

There will be a good deal of capping done this season. It is a useful institution if properly worked. The cap does not, as a rule, add much directly to the revenue of the Hunt; but it has the effect of making some people subscribe who might not otherwise do their duty, keeps away a number of casual visitors, and obliges those who come to pay their share of the expenses. The ten-shilling cap in the Taunton Vale produced thirty-four pounds, and this was quite a substantial addition to the balance-sheet. Probably in Hunts like the Taunton Vale the cap represents the by no means unwilling contributions of men who come across the borders from other Hunts, or of those local people who can only manage an occasional day with hounds. I am strongly in favour of making the cap as moderate in amount as possible. Of course, if a pack hunts in the neighbourhood of a large town, a fairly substantial sum is necessary. There are Hunts within reach of London and Birmingham, for example, on which strangers descend in numbers, and in these countries hunting would have been made impossible if some check had not been placed on these casual sportsmen. It would be something of a revelation if we could ascertain the number of outside people who did not subscribe at all to foxhounds, yet, nevertheless, hunted pretty regularly. A man who lives in a hunting country at least spends money in the country. There are, however, a number of people who, "though on pleasure bent, yet have a frugal mind," and the frugal mind was particularly noticeable in hunting countries. How necessary it is to raise money may be seen from the following instance given me by a member of the committee of a leading Hunt: "We gave our Master a larger subscription to begin with than any one had had before. Since then we have built a cottage, taking several expenses—including rates and taxes and insurance—on ourselves,

WRIGHT'S

COAL TAR SOAP

THE NURSERY SOAP

WRIGHT'S

SOAP is the

BEST SOAP.

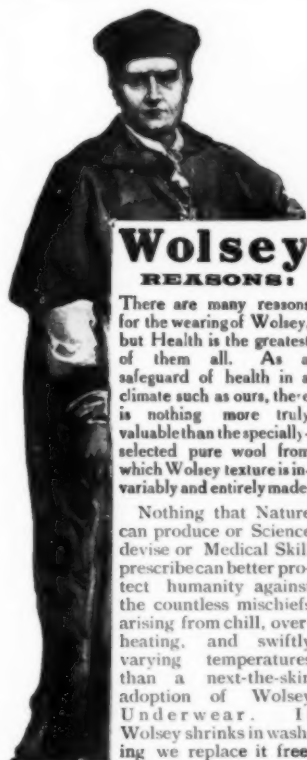


The BEST

SOAP is the

RIGHT SOAP.

4D PER TABLET.



Wolsey REASONS:

There are many reasons for the wearing of Wolsey, but Health is the greatest of them all. As a safeguard of health in a climate such as ours, there is nothing more truly valuable than the specially-selected pure wool from which Wolsey texture is invariably and entirely made.

Nothing that Nature can produce or Science devise or Medical Skill prescribe can better protect humanity against the countless mischiefs arising from chill, over-heating, and swiftly varying temperatures than a next-skin adoption of Wolsey Underwear. If Wolsey shrinks in washing we replace it free.

Wolsey UNDERWEAR

A wide range of garments and sizes for men, women and children. "Special Size" Wolsey for men of unusual build. Ladies should ask to see "Wolsey de Luxe" Combination—its first perfection of quality and comfort and its very here.

Wolsey Underwear Co., Leicester

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS send your films to MARTIN.

Experts in Developing. No waiting, returned next day. Any size, 1/- twelve exposures; 6d. for six.

Cameras bought for cash or exchanged

LIST FREE.

MARTIN, Chemist, SOUTHAMPTON.

REVOLVING SHELTERS



Mounted on Patent Wheels with Revolving Gear and Foundation Platform. Size 6ft by 6ft. PRICE £11 10s. 0d. Carriage Paid. Best Materials and Workmanship. Send for 1913 Catalogue of Shelters.

J. T. HOBSON & CO. Bedford.

Established 70 years. Works 6 acres. Stock of Wood in Sheds, 10,000 tons.

HARRODS L^{TD} PARIS-BERLIN BUENOS AIRES

Old Spode Reproductions.

Made exclusively for HARRODS by the famous House of COPELANDS.

The three beautiful Patterns illustrated are identical with the original productions of the 18th century, and possess all the softness of the underglaze colourings, which are practically unfadeable, and the exquisite moulding that distinguished the Pottery of that period.



Spode's "CHELSEA" Pattern.

First produced 1790.

	£ s. d.
52 Pieces Dinner Service (Earthenware)	3 2 6
67 " " " " " "	4 9 6
100 " " " " " "	7 2 6
18 " Dessert " " " "	1 7 9
40 " Tea " (China)	3 5 6
29 " Breakfast " " "	3 3 6
51 " " " " " "	6 3 6

Coffee Cups and Saucers, per doz. (China) 1 13 0

Any pieces sold separately.

The Tea and Breakfast Services and Coffee Cups and Saucers are China with Best Burnished Gilt Edges.



The "PEPLOW" Pattern.

(Original Spode Design).

	£ s. d.
52 Pieces Dinner Service (Earthenware)	3 2 6
67 " " " " " "	4 9 6
100 " " " " " "	7 2 6
18 " Dessert " " " "	1 7 9
40 " Tea " (China)	3 5 6
29 " Breakfast " " "	3 3 6
51 " " " " " "	6 3 6

Coffee Cups and Saucers, per doz. (China) 1 13 0

Any pieces sold separately.

The Tea and Breakfast Services and Coffee Cups and Saucers are China with Best Burnished Gilt Edges.



Spode's "OLD BOW" Pattern.

	£ s. d.
52 Pieces Dinner Service (Earthenware)	3 16 6
67 " " " " " "	5 9 6
100 " " " " " "	8 16 6
18 " Dessert " " " "	1 7 9
40 " Tea " (China)	3 5 6
29 " Breakfast " " "	3 3 6
51 " " " " " "	6 3 6

Coffee Cups and Saucers, per doz. (China) 1 13 0

Any pieces sold separately.

The Tea and Breakfast Services and Coffee Cups and Saucers are China with Best Burnished Gilt Edges.

HARRODS Ltd

Richard Burbidge
Managing Director

LONDON S.W.

EVERY AMATEUR GARDENER SHOULD READ

GARDENING MADE EASY

Edited by E. T. COOK.

202 Pages. 23 Illustrations. Price 1/- Net; In Cloth, 1/6.

Of all Booksellers, or post free 1/3 or 1/9 from "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

THE WORLD-FAMED Angelus PLAYER PIANOS

the extraordinary success of which is undoubtedly due to their Artistic Supremacy, Reliability, and Moderate Prices. SIR HERBERT MARSHALL & SONS, Ltd. Dept. 6, Angelus Hall, Regent House, Regent St., London.



Ruby and Diamonds, £10



Diamonds and Platinum, £41 Others from £10



Diamond Half-Hoops, £10 upwards.

Selections sent at our risk and expense.

BENSON'S

FINE GEM RINGS in the new Platinum Settings.

Highest Quality. Best Value. At Lowest Cash Prices.

Or the Economical and Equitable "Times" System of MONTHLY PAYMENTS is available.

62 & 64, LUDGATE HILL, E.C. AND 25, OLD BOND STREET, W.



Ruby and Diamonds, £21 Diamonds, £27



Diamonds, £14 Rubies or Sapphires and Diamonds, £8 10s.



Rubies and Diamonds, £17

New Illustrated Book No. 1 of Rings, etc., with Size Card post free.

JARRAH FENCING

IS CHEAPER THAN OAK.



Recognised as the BEST FENCING. Adopted by Railway Companies.
Requires neither Paint nor Creosote to prevent decay.
The most durable wood in the ground.

All descriptions supplied from stock at very short notice. Catalogues and Prices from—
MILLARS' TIMBER & TRADING CO., LTD.,
PINNERS' HALL, LONDON, E.C.



OMEGA

The Watch of matchless merit
Price One Guinea and upwards, at all leading watchmakers

AN EPOCH MAKING INVENTION.

The 'DAVON'
Patent
MICRO-TELESCOPE

EMBODIES THE SUPER POWER
OF THE MICROSCOPE APPLIED
TO THE TELESCOPE.
You can see a microscopic specimen
or the craters of the moon.
A most desirable Christmas
Present.



MICRO- AND TELE-
PHOTOGRAPHY
can be done.
Descriptive Bro-
chure from the
owners & makers.

F. DAVIDSON & CO.,

OPTICIANS,
29, Gt Portland St., London, W.
(See "Country Life," Oct. 4th,
page 17.)

From
£7 15s.

THE DURHAM-DUPLEX RAZOR

IS A

BARBER'S RAZOR with the **ADVANTAGES** of
SAFETY.—The Edges are Guarded.

INTERCHANGEABLE BLADES.—Substan-
tial, Hollow-ground, Full-length.

STROPPABLE.—Any Strop.

IT CAN ALSO BE USED AS AN ORDINARY OPEN
BLADE RAZOR—WITH INTERCHANGEABLE
BLADES—MAKING STROPPING UNNECESSARY.

Each.
Durham-Duplex Outfit, 21/-
Durham-Derby Outfit, 10/6

A Sample Demonstrator Razor
with one blade can be had for
testing at 2/6 and ex-
changed without loss.
ASK YOUR DEALER TO
SHOW YOU THE RAZOR.



Write
to-day for
Our FREE BOOKLET
and Cardboard Model Razor.
DURHAM-DUPLEX
RAZOR CO., Ltd.,
27H, Church Street,
SHEFFIELD.

and added considerably over £1,000 a year to the Master's share. We have an excellent Master, not a very rich man, and we felt that if he was to stay with us we could not do less. Some of us grumble, but, after all, the share of each man does not come to so very much, when we consider the quality of the sport offered in our country."

EARTH-STOPPING AND SHEPHERDS' DOGS.

Every season the question of earth-stopping comes up. If we are to have sport, earths must be stopped or broken up. If the former is done efficiently, it resolves itself into a question of expense. I think if we break up too many earths we are preparing for ourselves a scarcity of foxes. If we dig out our earth and kill a fox on it, we shall no doubt find that foxes will give that particular refuge a wide berth. But it leads foxes to seek refuge elsewhere or become outliers. Foxes that lie about in hedgerows are hard to find. They are liable to come to an untimely end; or, even if they escape, they learn to make themselves scarce when hounds are in the neighbourhood, and cannot be found when wanted. The other difficulty is that of sheepdogs or cattle dogs. Many years ago, when hunting in a certain famous grass country, I suggested a fund to supply shepherds with chains for their dogs. The fund is really needed; for shepherds' dogs, now that cattle and sheep remain in the field so much longer than was the case formerly, are a real danger to sport. Probably a silver chain might be effectual. A fox chased by a dog loses his scent, be the reason what it may. I think myself that a fox loses his scent and leaves but a feeble trail behind if he is frightened, as we know a hare does under like circumstances.

THE COTTESMORE.

The Master of the Cottesmore was out to see his hounds draw the best fox covert in England—Owston Wood. The owner of the covert, Sir Geoffrey Palmer, was there, too. There is no covert so beloved of foxes, nor from which sport is so nearly a certainty, as Owston, nor is it a poor scenting covert. The scent at Knossington had been but moderate, but in Owston, with cubs flying in all directions, hounds had plenty of hunting; probably they had had one cub or another close in front of them all the time. It was a different matter when at last the cubs dispersed and one took his way into the open. Hounds started gaily. The pack was hunting closely before the Lovers' Walk (close at hand) was reached, and hounds failed entirely to track the fox to Braunstone, whither, no doubt, he had gone. Then the Master gave the word for home; each fox in turn had run the pack out of scent, and such mornings do hounds no good, although they may serve as a useful lesson to foxes that safety lies in flight.

THE BELVOIR.

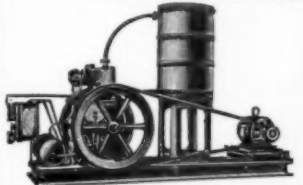
I have never gone out for a hunt without watching the hounds at work to the best of my ability, nor have I ever failed, when near enough, to note the hounds really at work nor to enquire how they were bred. Almost invariably the reply has shown that they came from Belvoir blood. Thinking, perhaps, that much study of pedigrees had given me too great a partiality to these lines, I asked a friend to hunt with that pack and give me his views of their work in the field. He chose the Lincolnshire country because of its variety and the number and excellence of its foxes. Here the families of Whichcote and Willson have, among others, preserved foxes on the sound principle of leaving them alone, knowing full well that for sport wild foxes are necessary, and that such can be obtained only by leaving foxes alone and keeping the coverts quiet. "The place of meeting was Aswarby, The Thorns the draw. The hounds quickly found a cub. The pack flew together in beautiful style and with such drive that they were soon in the open. Every hound was at work as if the whole of the chase depended on it individually. They hunted every yard of the way, but going fast from the rapidity with which they made their own casts and the pace at which they flew together and drove on as the line was bit off. The fox worked out a ring, and hounds were back in the covert. Aswarby Thorns is a big and close covert, but hounds showed both patience and resolution. The next hunt was from a field of kale, where an old poultry thief had laid up. The pace was fast, and they fairly hunted their fox out of the coverts. Back again into Aswarby Thorns he came. They stuck to their fox and hunted him out with a failing scent. Hounds showed great stamina in this long and severe hunt of nearly an hour; there was no tiring or stringing out, and no relaxation of the concentrated eagerness of their work. I had a look also at Mr. T. Bouch's private pack, which are chiefly derived from Mr. Stanley's famous Woodland Pytchley. They have, of course, more variety of type than the Belvoir, nor have they so much substance and bone, nor is there the same family likeness, but they are very quick, very keen and with lots of drive, and we know that they are a killing pack. They are much liked in the country."

C. H. GRESWELL, Esq., writes:

Dear Sirs,
I have much pleasure in stating that since the "Lister-Bruston" system was installed here, now nearly a year ago, the plant has given me no trouble. It gives a steady light and requires but little supervision. I am quite prepared at any time to show the plant to any intending purchasers.
P.S. You are at liberty to make use of this letter.



THE "LISTER-BRUSTON"
AUTOMATIC
ELECTRIC LIGHTING
& PUMPING INSTALLATION
STARTS ITSELF-
STOPS ITSELF
(PROTECTED BY PATENTS)



Can be seen at work at 47,
Victoria St. Westminster, S.W.

Sole Makers
R.A. LISTER & CO. LTD.
DURSLEY, Glos.

HUNDREDS OF SATISFIED USERS

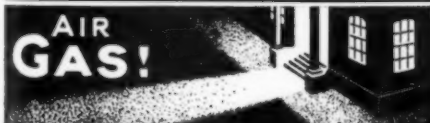
Miss G. M. B. IRD writes:

Dear Sirs,
I have pleasure in stating that since its installation in my house in September 1911, the 80-light "Lister-Bruston" Automatic Electric Lighting plant has given every satisfaction.

GRINDELWALD.
3500 FEET.

THE "BEAR HOTEL."
World renowned and unique for ALL winter sports.
PRIVATE SKATING and CURLING RINKS.
TOBOGGAN RUNS. EXCELLENT SKATING.
Longest constructed Bobsleigh Run in Switzerland.

Terms and Brochure No. 10, from—
Manager, "BEAR HOTEL," GRINDELWALD



LIGHT YOUR HOME

BRILLIANTLY, ECONOMICALLY & SAFELY
by installing the

**MERCURY
SAFETY AIR GAS**

THE UP-TO-DATE PLANT.

Simple, Reliable, Safe, Maximum
of Light. Minimum of Cost.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

For use in Mansions, Halls, Villages, Churches,
Farms and Factories.

Write to-day for Booklet on our System.

MERCURY SAFETY AIR GAS CO., Ltd.

Registered Office: 95, WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW.
London: 47, Victoria St., S.W. Manchester: 2, Mosley St.
Aberdeen: 26, Union St. Belfast: 177, Antrim Road.

Exterminated by
"LIVERPOOL" VIRUS
without danger to other animals, and
without smell from dead bodies.
In this ready prepared with the
bait. Virus for Rats, 2/6 and
6/- for Mice, 1/6.
Of all Chemists.
Write for particulars to
EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, Ltd.
88L, Hanover Street, LIVERPOOL.

HARRODS LTD

LONDON
PARIS
BERLIN
BUENOS AIRES

These Gowns may be
had on approval.



G.O. BLAKENAY G.O. MADALINE

Made to Special Measures,
10/6 extra.

G.O. HALLE

HARRODS LTD. RICHARD BURBIDGE LONDON S.W.
Managing Director

Dainty Frocks in exquisite styles.

Illustrations show

G.O. HALLE

Exquisite Day Frock in moiré
silk, the collar and vest are
of white tulle, with a cameo
brooch fastening wide band
of Oriental moiré at waist,
skirt prettily draped. In black
and various colours.

Price 9½ Guineas

G.O. BLAKENAY

Charming Morning Frock in
good quality velveteen, bodice
with embroidered velveteen
in contrasting shade and frilled
collar and vest of cream tulle,
with coloured ribbon sash at
waist, skirt prettily draped.
Stocked in black and few
colours only.

Price 7½ Guineas

G.O. MADALINE

Day Frock in good quality
black velveteen, bodice
trimmed with embroidered
collar and fancy braided
ornaments, finished at waist
with wide silk mohair braid
and long ends. Stocked in
black and few colours only.

Price 5½ Guineas

Orders by Post carefully
executed.
Carriage Paid in United
Kingdom.



OVER 10,000 DOCTORS
AND THOUSANDS OF NURSES
Recommend

WINGARNIS

for Coughs, Colds, Chills, Influenza, Anæmia,
Sleeplessness, Brain-fag, Weakness, Nerve-
Troubles, Lowered Vitality, and if you are
run-down. Will you try just one bottle?

TEST IT FREE Send three penny stamps to
Coleman & Co., Ltd., C 10,
Wingarnis Works, Norwich, for a liberal trial bottle.

For cleaning Silver, Electro Plate &c.

**Goddard's
Plate Powder**

Sold everywhere 6d 1/2 2/6 & 4/6



HOOF OF ANIMALS

MOUNTED IN NEW AND ORIGINAL DESIGNS

"Observations on the Preservation of Hoofs
and the designing of Hoof Trophies," Post
free, 2d.

ROWLAND WARD, Ltd.,

Naturalists—By Special Appointment to
H.M. The King.

"THE JUNGLE," 107, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

THE GARDEN

PRICE 1d. WEEKLY.

Offices: 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY.

RHODESIA IN PICCADILLY.

FOR the past ten years the Rhodesian Government has been experimenting in tobacco production, and their efforts have now culminated in a supply of very fine flavoured leaf of both the Turkish and Virginian variety. In flavour and appearance Rhodesian tobacco of to-day is fully equal to the finest Oriental and American tobaccos on the market. The enterprise is now carried a step further by the opening of handsome premises at No. 171, Piccadilly, W., by the Tobacco Company of Rhodesia, who are introducing a Virginian and Turkish cigarette made from Rhodesian-grown tobacco, in an attractive box, under the name of "Earl Grey." Apart from the undeniable merit of the new "Earl Grey" cigarette, the shop itself is interesting with its trophy-covered walls, appealing to those who have themselves shot big-game in Rhodesia, and its numerous photographs of the company's tobacco plantations and warehouses. The cigarettes are hand-made on the company's own premises under the supervision of expert blenders, and are probably the only cigarettes at present sold in England which are supplied direct to the public from the plantations, carrying with them in consequence a guarantee of purity from the day the leaf is harvested through every stage of manufacture, until it is placed on sale in Piccadilly. We advise those of our readers who have not sampled Rhodesian tobacco to begin with an "Earl Grey," and give the benefit of their approval to what is now becoming an important Imperial industry.

A RARE COLLECTION OF ANTIQUES.

Everyone who is interested in old furniture, tapestries, china, etc., should pay a visit to Harrods', Limited, Brompton Road, S.W., next week where, from the 27th inst. onward, will be shown what is probably a quite unique collection of antiques of all kinds, the accumulation of a long period of discriminating and careful purchase. The furniture, generally the object of widest interest in an exhibition of this kind, includes fine specimens of the best periods, both English and Continental. Space forbids our enumerating all the best pieces here, but we would advise our readers to see without fail a beautiful Louis Seize commode, enriched with delicate inlay work and elaborate ormolu mounts signed by the well known maker, Riesener, 1769. In the same room will be seen, too, a charming William and Mary cabinet in walnut covered with marqueterie, in perfect condition. A pair of Queen Anne chairs in inlaid walnut, with particularly graceful curved backs, still seated and panelled with the original fine canework, now mellowed by two centuries of use, also merit inspection. The tapestries are delightful—they comprise some fifty or sixty pieces from Gobelins, Aubusson and other famous looms of widely varying subjects, one of the most interesting being a seventeenth century Flemish piece representing a boar hunt, though there are several other very entertaining

sporting subjects. China enthusiasts will revel in the cabinets of old English ware, where will be found dainty Bow and Chelsea figures, a rare set of five Swansea spill vases, painted in panels by Billingsley; tea and dinner services, vases, bowls, etc., in Worcester, Derby, Rockingham, and almost every other make of interest to the collector; but perhaps the most remarkable exhibit is the old needlework, much of which has figured in old French châteaux and only left its



LOUIS XIV. NEEDLEWORK AT HARRODS'.

original home when it was bought for Harrods'. The chair we illustrate—a Louis XIV. specimen, covered with the original petit point in perfect preservation—may be taken as typical of the rest; and among many others a remarkable piece is a Louis XIII. chair depicting a harlequinade on a black background, the colours still delicately glowing, and the ground-work in perfect preservation. Marvellous detail, too, is shown in the romantic design of a Queen Anne screen, where the principal figures are interspersed with butterflies, birds, beasts and flowers, in exquisite petit point; and a mahogany card-table,

with a needlework top whereon cards and money are strewn on a neutral tinted background in a richly treated border of bold foliage and flowers, only needs to be seen by an appreciative purchaser to enter on a second career of usefulness. And, speaking of purchasers, another admirable feature of the collection from their point of view, is the very moderate price asked for these works of art. Bought in the sale-room, there is scarcely a piece whose sentimental interest would not run its intrinsic value up to inflated figures, but the collection has been acquired gradually and opportunely, and as a result, the prices quoted are far more favourable to the collector than he could hope for under ordinary circumstances.

THE NEWEST RIDING HABIT.

Although there is little scope for any marked variation in the cut of a habit, every year sees some subtle change marking the garment as unmistakably of the current season, and as a rule these changes tend towards greater comfort as well as greater smartness on the part of the wearer. The habit we illustrate,



THIS SEASON'S HABIT.

made by Mr. Thomas, 6, Brook Street, W., is a very prepossessing example of the present season's models. As will be noticed, the coat is cut rather shorter than hitherto and more semi-fitting, giving a straighter effect to the back and front. The fronts have long, rolled, double-breasted lapels, and are cut well away, fastening at the waist with one button. There are neat turn-back cuffs, and a slip or waistcoat in the hunt colours would make a good finish to the garment. The skirt, which is the

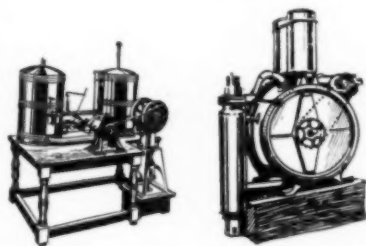
well known Thomas safety apron pattern, is also rather shorter, showing more of the boot than formerly, and looks very neat either mounted or dismounted. This habit is made in a variety of new cloths, either showing a faint stripe effect or in perfectly plain greys, blue and black, while some quiet shades of brown are also being utilised, with excellent results.

"THE ONLY WAY."

Although most people are familiar with the economy effected by petrol gas lighting, it must be remembered that the various plants differ greatly both in their working principles, the type of the petrol they can consume, and luminant capacity. The really economical plant is one simple in construction and working, which will convert a low-grade spirit *without waste* into a generous and steady luminant. These requirements are excellently fulfilled by the National Air Gas Producer, which we illustrate, made by the International Air Gas Corporation, Limited,

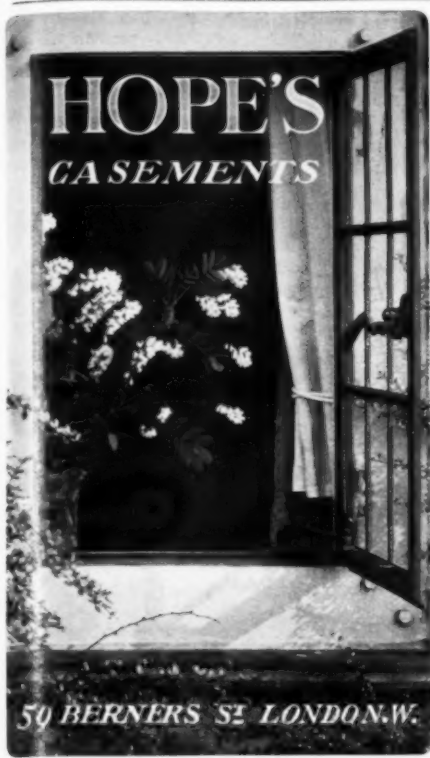
26, Victoria Street, S.W., a plant by which a perfect gas is obtained by the use of a petrol costing less than one shilling per gallon. Compared with machines which can only run satisfactorily on petrol at two shillings and twopence per gallon, the direct saving is obvious. Absence of waste—for the makers claim that the spirit is entirely converted into

air-gas—is another great economy, and the machinery is so simple that no skilled attention is required. The corporation make three types of plants, a weight drive, an engine drive and a machine to be run off a gas-engine or other prime mover; also water-driven plants to order. All the machines are listed *complete* (with no extras) at most moderate prices. Those interested can obtain the firm's booklet, "The Only Way," and all particulars they may require on application to the corporation at above address.



ENGINE AND WEIGHT DRIVEN PLANTS.

HOPE'S
CASEMENTS



50 BERNERS ST LONDON W.

For Ideal Cooking
BERNDORF
PURE SOLID NICKEL
COOKING UTENSILS
cannot be surpassed



No Tinning. Most Hygienic. No Special Cleaning.
Bright & Silverlike Appearance.
SEAMLESS & INDESTRUCTIBLE • FIRST COST THE ONLY COST.
THE BERNDORF METAL WORKS, ARTHUR KRUPP.
231 Regent St. London W (Close to Oxford Circus)

BERNDORF
REIN-NICKEL

BERNDORF
REIN-NICKEL

Economical and Hygienic
Warmth in the Home



It is essential that your house be warmed throughout during the chilly days and evenings of winter. But it is also essential, if correct health is to be maintained, that the warmth provided should conform to the ethics of hygiene—in short, you must provide a **PURE HEAT**.
CLARK'S Patent
SYPHON STOVES
for GAS or OIL are guaranteed to generate only **PURE HEAT**, economically and at a moment's notice. The bright, cheerful rays of the Syphon Stove impart a cosiness unequalled by any other stove where **NO FLUE IS REQUIRED**. All products are scientifically condensed. No smoke, no smell. It generates only **PURE HEAT**. The Syphon Stove is the only flueless heater accepted by the Medical profession.
You want a warmth that is economical and pure. Write now for our free booklet, it will interest you.
Clark's Syphon Stove Co., Ltd.
Dept. 4, 132, Queen Victoria St. E.C.
Works: Warrington.

DELICIOUS COFFEE
quickly and easily made
IN THE
"Universal"
Coffee Percolator



The Aromatic and Invigorating Essence of the Coffee is extracted before the **WATER BOILS**
COFFEE thus made is perfect—free from the elements which cause this delicious beverage to disagree with so many people when made in the ordinary way.
Anyone can make perfect Coffee in the "Universal"
Of all first-class Ironmongers and Department Stores.
Write for our Illustrated Descriptive Booklet.
LANDERS, FRARY & CLARK (Room C), 31, Bartholomew Close, LONDON, E.C.

**THE GREATEST ADVANCE IN
RECENT LENS CONSTRUCTION**

ROSS'
"TELECENTRIC"
Patent.



Perfect Definition at Full Aperture.
Large Image with Short Camera Extension.

To be obtained of all Leading Dealers.
Catalogues Free.

ROSS, Ltd., By Royal Warrant
to His Majesty the King.
111, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.
OPTICAL WORKS, CLAPHAM COMMON, S.W.

Wash-day Worries—Ended!

No more hard work, and the washing done in less than one quarter the usual time. The old 'tub and scrub' method is superseded by—
BRADFORD'S 'VOWEL' WASHER
No internal mechanism. Easy in operation, and will last a lifetime.
A MONTH'S FREE TRIAL BEFORE PURCHASE.
Washing Machines from 45s. Carriage
Wringing Machines 25s. Free.
Special Discount.
BUTTER CHURNS, BUTTERWORKERS, LABOUR-SAVERS for the HOUSE.
"Everything for the House and Dairy."
MANSION LAUNDRIES A SPECIALITY.
Write for Illustrated Catalogue (251 K)
THOS. BRADFORD & Co. Manufacturers,
111-112, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.
130, Bold St., Liverpool; 1, Deansgate, Manchester.



Rock and Water Gardens

THEIR MAKING AND PLANTING:
WITH CHAPTERS ON WALL
AND HEATH GARDENING

By the late F. W. MEYER. Edited by E. T. COOK

Price 6/- Net, by post 6/5

Published at the Offices of "COUNTRY LIFE," LTD., 20,
Tavistock Street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.



It is not only the charming designs of
BELVOIR CANE FURNITURE
which ensure it so warm a welcome in well-appointed homes.

Its craftsmanship is so evidently of the first order, and it is so hygienic that it cannot but appeal to the most discriminating. The Chairs can be washed without harm. Nothing to tear or catch the clothes. Made in a factory devoted to such work for 200 years.

Sold by best Furnishers throughout the country.
Name of nearest Agent sent, with handsome
Illustrated List, on request, from the Makers of

"BELVOIR" CANE FURNITURE
Office 4, Grantham.

A WORLD-FAMOUS ENTERPRISE.

Under the above title we have just received a most interesting booklet from the Odol Chemical Works, published to celebrate the completion by Odol of a quarter of a century of existence. The general public, who now take Odol for granted, have, we think, very little idea of the enormous magnitude of the business. The chief Odol factory is probably one of the largest establishments of its kind in the world, and the firm have no fewer than fourteen factories scattered over England, Europe, and North and South America. In their little birthday book the process of Odol manufacture is most entertainingly illustrated, from the harvesting of the Mitcham peppermint, the costliest grown, on account of its unrivalled flavour, which forms one of its ingredients, to the packing of the flasks for export. The hygienic purity of the process and surroundings of its manufacture are made very obvious both by the excellent letterpress and the illustrations which accompany it; while the latter part of the book is occupied with details as to the numerous causes and effects of the unhealthy conditions of the mouth and teeth, which Odol so successfully combats, and the wide usage it has received in consequence in all parts of the world. A copy of the booklet will be sent, post free, on application to the Odol Company, Park Street, S.E.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S NURSERY.

The attic nursery depressingly furnished with derelict furniture from the rest of the house has long been a thing of the past, but how charming and appropriate to its purpose it might be made was still unrealised by many parents till the Queen-Mother herself showed them by designing a model nursery for the "Ideal Home" Exhibition at Olympia. The design, which was executed by Messrs. Waring and Gillow, has been conceived and interpreted with wonderful sympathy and understanding. Both in the day-room and the night nursery adjoining the furniture is in proportion to its little occupants; the gay frieze is not too high for them to see,



A DAY AND NIGHT NURSERY DESIGNED BY H.M. QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

and the pictures and the Dutch tiles in the fireplace have all been chosen to please them. The old English window is fitted with a wide upholstered seat, which is really the top of a capacious toy-box. The floor is covered with a cosy material, warm as felt, durable as linoleum, on which are spread washable rugs. All the angles of the room are rounded off so that there are no dust-harbours, corners, and there are no ledges or sharp corners for the children to come into collision with when romping. Cleanliness, comfort and beauty are the essential points of the nursery, and the interest it has evoked seems to prophesy a marked improvement in nurseries of the future.

A WATERPROOF SHOE LEATHER.

It seems extraordinary that, although during the last century umbrellas, which before that time were practically unknown in England, have become universal, a really waterproof shoe leather is a matter of quite recent invention. Science has at last come to our aid, however, and given us a leather which will not only defy any conditions, but will also wear three times as long as any tanned in the ordinary way. This remarkable super-leather, if one may so describe it, which is called "Dri-ped," has a greenish tint and is remarkably light in weight, a quality which will commend it specially for ladies' wear. It was first used with great success in golfing and shooting boots, and sportsmen greatly appreciated its extraordinary qualities; since then it has been put to more regular, if less severe, tests by postmen, gardeners, policemen and others, whose work entailed hard wear on their boots in all kinds of weather, and again won golden opinions. Now the general public are beginning to realise its value and every conscientious shoemaker is recommending its use for ladies or children, while the actual increased wear and general comfort it ensures are remarkable.

THE SORE THROAT SEASON.

At no period of the year are affections of the throat so soon contracted or so difficult to get rid of as during the damp, changeable weather of our English winter. A really pleasant and efficacious

pastille which relieves the irritation of a sore throat or troublesome winter cough in a remarkable manner is a pastille made by the well known firm of Messrs. Allen and Hanbury, Limited, 37, Lombard Street, E.C. These pastilles are prepared with the utmost care by a special process from pure glycerine and fresh black currant juice. They contain no drugs of any kind and are quite harmless. They may be given to children safely as a delicious and wholesome sweetmeat, and being easily digested, can be strongly recommended for the use of elderly people and others whose digestive organs are weak. "Allenburys" Glycerine and Black Currant Pastilles, as they are called, may be obtained from all chemists in tins containing 2oz., 4oz., 8oz. and 1lb., at 6d., 1s., 1s. 7d. and 3s. each; and care should be taken to see that the trade-marks, "Allenburys" and a plough are on each box.

IN MEMORY OF THE S.S. "VOLTURNO."

An event of considerable interest took place at Liverpool on Friday evening, October 17th, when Mr. Francis Gardner, first officer of the Carmania, became the recipient of a gold watch, one of Benson's famous "Fields." Mr. Andrew D. Mearns, general manager of the Cunard Steamship Company, presided. It will be remembered that Mr. Francis Gardner distinguished himself by his gallantry in putting off from the Carmania with nine picked men in an attempt to reach the burning Voltorno, an attempt only abandoned after the loss of five out of eight oars in the tremendous seas running at the time. The watch is suitably engraved with the inscription: "The burning of the S.S. Voltorno. Presented to Mr. Francis Gardner, First Officer of the R.M.S. Carmania by the Saloon Passengers in recognition of his gallant work October 9th, 1913."

A NEW ORGANIC FERTILISER.

PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY read a most interesting paper last Tuesday evening, in which he explained in detail his new method of impregnating peat with cultures of nitrogen-fixing bacteria, so that it becomes an extraordinarily efficient fertilising agent. The benefits to be obtained by the introduction of nitrogen-fixing bacteria have been known for a very long while, and it is because of the growth of nodules containing these bacteria on the roots of pea and bean plants that these latter are so valuable in restoring the proper quota of nitrates to spent land; but it has never before been possible to introduce the bacteria directly into the soil and combined with a suitable organic fertiliser. Some years ago Nitro-bactarine was produced, and great things were hoped from it, owing to the marvellous results obtained in the laboratory; but the uncertain conditions of practical farming made it useless on a large scale. Other observers have suggested the use of a medium rich in soluble humates for introducing cultures of nitrogen-fixing bacteria into the soil. Raw peat in itself is valueless as a fertiliser, and also contains a compound which is deleterious, insoluble humic acid. Professor Bottomley's first problem was to convert this insoluble acid into the soluble salts; this he accomplished by the action of certain aerobic bacteria. He then sterilised the peat containing the soluble humates by means of steam, and introduced a culture of nitrogen-fixing organisms.

Professor Bottomley's results, both in the field and the laboratory have been extremely good. His prepared peat contains over fifty times as much available plant food as farmyard manure, according to the chemical analysis. At Eton School garden plots dressed with his fertiliser at the rate of one ton and one-fifth per acre, compared with plots receiving farmyard manure at the rate of eighty tons per acre, gave an increase in lettuce of 27 per cent., turnips 23 per cent., and potatoes 41 per cent.; while at the Physic Gardens in Chelsea the increase in radishes amounted to 54 per cent. The material had a corresponding influence upon wheat, barley and oats in pot experiments; while excellent results have been obtained with flowers at the Royal Gardens at Kew.

There is, therefore, no doubt that the prepared peat is of great value as a manure; but whether its fertilising action is due to the presence of nitrogen-fixing bacteria or merely to the large quantity of soluble humates produced during the preparation of the medium cannot yet be said to have been definitely proved, while the peat has also a beneficial mechanical action on the soil.

In all matters of practical horticulture the question of cost naturally plays a most important part. Professor Bottomley sterilises his peat by means of steam. Now, the raising of a mass of water-logged peat to a temperature of about 96deg. C. by means of steam would require a large expenditure in fuel, and would therefore be a very expensive operation. If only the product can be manufactured at a reasonable cost its value will be immense to those who go in for intensive cultivation, to market-gardeners, to horticulturists, to farmers, and for use on golf-greens while the material is not objectionable to use in private gardens.